THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 13TH SEPTEMBER.

WE UNDERSTAND that Mr. J. B. Knight of Messrs. Newman and Co., proposes to bring out in November next a Guide-book for Calcutta. Such a book is a *desideratum*, and as a resident of this town of 24 years' standing Mr. Knight has had good opportunities of knowing its highways and bye-ways. Such a publication will be highly useful to the tourists, who are coming with His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

WE ARE sorry to record the death of Babu Bepinbehary Bose, Assistant Surgeon and Lecturer at the Agra Medical School. The Principal of the School has recorded the following memorandum testifying to the services of the lamented deceased :

"The Principal deeply regrets to have to announce the death of Asst. Surgeon Bepin Behary Bose, who has for 12 years served in this Hospital and Medical School and has for the past 7 years been in charge of the Thomason Hospital, and Lecturer, on the practice of Medicine in this Medical School.

Dr. Christison takes this opportunity of testifying to the constant care and attention bestowed on the duties of the Hospital by the late Babu Bepin Behary Bose during all these years and his kindness to the sick.

Many a Hospital Assistant now in the service of Government will testify to the excellent courses of Lectures he delivered on the practice of Medicine in the Medical School. His great patience and perseverence in impressing on the students the important principles he had to teach both by his Lectures and class Examinations.

The Government has lost in him a faithful and an excellent officer; and the Principal, Lecturers, and students, have lost a kind friend.

The School will be closed from to-day until Monday out of respect to the memory of the deceased.

(Sd.) A. CHRISTISON,
Principal,

Agra 27 August 1875.

WE ARE requested to state that Mr. Rodway has consented to publish a bi-monthly edition of the *Royal Tourist* in compliance with the request of numerous native correspondents. The *Tourist* seems to be full of promise.

IN 1876 there will be held in Philadelphia the "World's Homœopathic Convention." Dr. Mahendralala Sircar has received from the Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements a circular inviting his co-operation, which is published in the last number of the *Calcutta Journal of Medicine*. We make the following extract from this letter :

"In accordance with this design, and in order that British India may be properly represented in the historical portion of the Transactions, the Committee of Arrangements request you, to cause to be prepared, either by action of your national Society, or, if there exist no such Society, then, by the voluntary act of yourself and your associates, a complete historical and statistical Report upon Homœopathy in British India.

We suggest that this report should embrace :

1. A statement and history of the origin, growth and present representation of Homœpathy in the principal localities of British India.

2. The history and statistics of the Homœpathic Institutions, Societies, Dispensaries, Hospitals, Schools, Libraries, &c., of British India.

3. The history and statistics of Homœpathic literature, of all kinds, of British India.

4. A history of legislation, affecting Homœpathy in British India.

5. A statement of the present legal status of Homœpathic practitioners in British India.

In addition to this historical and statistical Report, we request you to cause to be prepared a scientific paper or Essay on some subject connected with Homœpathy and by which the Homœpathic physicians of British India may be represented on the arena of Science, in the "Convention." And we request that both the Report and the Essay may be prepared and sent to the Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements in New York, as early as January 1st, 1876, in order that full time may be had for translations (where necessary) and for printing, before the meeting of the "Convention."

Hoping for an early reply and for the cordial and earnest co-operation of our colleagues of British India in the work of the Convention, which if successful cannot fail to advance the interests of Homœpathy, and hoping for the pleasure of welcoming you individually in the United States, I remain, with sentiments of great esteem,

Your Friend and Colleague,
CARROLL DUNHAM, M. D.
Chairman, Committee of Arrangements.

We hope Dr. Sircar will respond to this call and represent India in the Convention.

THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL OF MEDICINE discusses the age question in reference to medical appointments. The Government of India passed a Resolution dated the 20th January 1871 ruling that no person should be admitted into the Uncovenanted Service of Government after he has attained the age of 25 years. Our contemporary justly remarks that in framing the above Resolution the Government of India had the assistants of the public establishments chiefly in view. He thus shews the necessity of a higher limit of age for medical appointments :

"According to the rules of the Calcutta University, which have come into force with the sanction of the Government of India, the candidates for the Entrance Examination must be above the age of sixteen years on the 1st March following their admission to that Examination, and as, under the recent arrangements, they must pass the First Examination in Arts before commencing their Medical studies, (which cannot be done until after the prosecution of a regular course of study in some affiliated institution for not less than two academical years after passing the Entrance Examination), and thereafter carry on the latter studies for at least five years, no candidate can, even under the most favorable circumstances, qualify himself for the appointment of Assistant Surgeon, until he is above twenty-three years of age. But if any one, before commencing his medical studies, wishes to obtain the degree of B. A. for which two years' further study is absolutely necessary, he must be above twenty-five years of age, before he can qualify himself for such an appointment.

The above calculations do not make allowance for failures. The writer continues :

"Sir Richard Temple, our present Lieutenant Governor, has however extended to the Medical service,—from what motive it is not possible for us to divine,—the order about the maximum age for admission into the public service. The effect of this extension will therefore be to debar our best future graduates in Medicine from entering the public service. The defective general education of the Majority of our Medical practitioners brought up under the old regulations, which have happily been superseded by better ones, is pretty well known, and recently came into prominent notice in connection with the prize offered by Lord Northbrook for the best Essay on the Epidemic Fever now raging in Lower Bengal.

There is yet another consideration which ought to have great weight with a local Indian Government in deciding a question like the present. The maximum age at which candidates can appear for the Medical Covenanted Service is 28. They have to pass examination in the following subjects :—Anatomy and Physiology, Surgery and Medicine including Therapeutics, the Diseases of Women and Children, Chemistry and Pharmacy and a practical knowledge of drugs. The examination in Medicine and Surgery is in part practical, and includes operations on the dead body, the application of surgical apparatus and the examination of medical and surgical patients at the bed-side. Besides the above there are the following optional subjects,—French, German, and Hindustani, Comparative Anatomy, Zoology, Natural Philosophy, Physical Geography and Botany, with special reference to Materia Medica. The candidates for the post of Assistant Surgeon have to pass two examinations—the *First*, in Descriptive and Surgical Anatomy, Chemistry (including Practical Chemistry so far as regards the testing of the Presence and nature of ordinary poisons and the examination of animal secretions and urinary deposits), Botany, Materia Medica, Pharmacy, General Anatomy and Physiology, and Comparative Anatomy and Zoology; and the *Second*, in Principles and Practice of Medicine and Surgery, Ophthalmic Medicine and Surgery, Midwifery, Medical Jurisprudence and Practical Toxicology,—besides practical examination in the wards of a hospital, which includes operations upon the dead subject and the examination of morbid products, chemically and by the aid of the microscope. The examination in Comparative Anatomy and Zoology has to be passed only by those Candidates who wish to obtain the degree of Bachelor in Medicine.

We agree with our contemporary that the limit of age for medical appointments ought to be extended. A representation should be made to Government on the subject.

THE DELHI GAZETTE learns that on the recommendation of the Punjab Government the Government of India have sanctioned a scheme authorizing the Conservator of Forests to select every year five young men of good families—if possible sons of relatives of men serving in the Forest Department—to be trained at the Roorkee College for employment in the Department. Government will advance 10 Rs. a month for their maintenance while they are studying, and this advance the young men are expected to refund when they get employment. We hope this rule will be made general.

THE BOMBAY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION has set an enlightened example by electing a Native gentleman, Mr. Dosabhoy Framji, as its chairman. It was thought, we quote *Native Opinion*, that on the first landing of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales on the Indian soil, it would be appropriate that an Indian should welcome the Prince to this country. It was therefore proposed by Colonel Hancock, seconded by Mr. Arbuthnot, that Mr. Dosabhoy Framji should be elected Chairman of the Corporation. This proposition was received with satisfaction by all the members of the Corporation, European and Native, except Mr. Maclean, who thought "the time had not come when any Native could preside with advantage over such an assembly as that Corporation." Among other arguments as to why a Native should not be elected Chairman of the Corporation he urged :

"Then, it was urged as a special reason for Mr. Dosabhoy's appointment that the Prince of Wales would like to receive his first welcome, on landing in India, from a native of the country. He (Mr. Maclean) dissented from that opinion altogether. His Royal Highness had read history, and knew that Bombay was an English city that it had grown to its present greatness under the protection of the English Government, and that its prosperity was in great measure due to the English mercantile community who have given so much life and activity to the place. (Hear, hear.) The Prince would receive addresses enough in other parts of India from officials and natives; but the special characteristic of Bombay was that it numbered among its population a large proportion of independent Europeans; and he (Mr. Maclean) thought it would be a pity, and would be far from agreeable to the Prince himself, if when the address of welcome was presented, the Europeans were found occupying only a subordinate rank.

One European gentleman, Mr. Kirkham, thus answered Mr. Maclean :

"He should like to utter one word of dissent from Mr. Maclean. It seemed to him that such matters as the chairman of the Corporation being a Government servant or a member of any particular nationality should be carefully excluded from their debates. (Hear hear.) While Mr. Maclean objected to Mr. Dosabhoy Framjee on the ground that he represented only one section of the community, and would be thus disqualified from exercising impartiality, Mr. Maclean's own remarks certainly tended to limiting the chairman to one class of the community—namely to the merchants, to whom as he justly said Bombay owed so much. He (Mr. Krikham) must say he did not agree with that principle. In selecting a chairman for the Corporation, they had nothing to do with any but purely personal considerations; and if they found centred in Mr. Dosabhoy Framjee the qualifications which would make him an able, impartial, courteous, and in other respects suitable chairman, they should discard all such considerations as his being a Parsee, Hindoo, Mahomedan Government servant, or anything of that kind."

Mr. Maclean is the redoubted editor of the *Bombay Gazette*, who calls the educated natives "vipers."

TUESDAY, 14TH SEPTEMBER.

WE ARE GLAD to learn from *Native Opinion* that after a long and unjust delay of nearly half a year, the Political Agent of Katiawar, Mr. Peile, has seen his error in having most arbitrarily deprived of, his sunuds Mr. Nagindas Brijbhukandas in connection with the late Rajkote Association and has restored him at last to those sunuds.

A BILL has been introduced in the Bombay Legislative Council authorizing expenditure from the Municipal Fund for the reception of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. The first section runs as follows :

"It shall be lawful for the Municipal Corporation of the City of Bombay, anything contained in the Bombay Municipal Act of 1872 to the contrary notwithstanding, to contribute from the Municipal Fund towards the expense of providing for the becoming reception of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and for the public rejoicings during His Royal Highness' stay in the said City, such sum not exceeding half a lakh of rupees as the said Corporation shall deem fit"

The Bill sanctions this extraordinary expenditure only for the reception of the Prince of Wales. So far so good. Calcutta has escaped with a grant of Rs. 15,000 from the Municipal Fund for illumination on arrival of His Royal Highness.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Viceroy and Governor General in Council is pleased to order that the title of "Rai Bahadoor" conferred upon the late Shew Gholam Sah of Sarun be continued to his son Mahabir Pershad Sahoo as a personal distinction in recognition of his liberality during the recent famine in Bengal, and of the good services of his family to the British Government.

THE PIONEER says that a pleasant superstition would have us believe that no one can now be imprisoned in England for debt. But if any one still puts faith in this, let him consult a return presented to the Upper House by the Lord Chancellor. This document shows that 3,784 persons were imprisoned, during 1873, for debt. Of course a man is not ostensibly imprisoned as a debtor, but only for "contempt of court."

THE COST of the recent floods in France has been counted. According to the *Bulletin Hebdomadaire* of the Scientific Association of France, it is five hundred and fifty lives, and the enormous sum of 80 millions of francs.

RUSSIA evidently takes a greater interest in Central Asia than England does. A committee appointed by the Russian Geographical Society to report on the proposal of M. M. Sobolyef and Janssen to publish a gazetteer of Central Asia has reported favourably on the subject. They recommend that especial attention be paid to historical geography and ethnology, as statistical data are subject to frequent variations. The district to be embraced by the work extends from the watersheds

of the Ural and Irtysh, on the north to the Elburz, Hindu Kush, and the Karakorum ranges on the south; and from Mongolia on the east to the Caspain on the west.

THE SCIENCE COMMISSION of England have issued two Reports on the advancement of Science. The eighth report deals with the scientific work carried on by various Government departments; the assistance which is now given, and the assistance which should be given, by the State, to aid scientific research; and the central organization which would best afford aid in questions affecting science. After remarking that great advancement has been made in science in England during the present century by such men as Dalton, Davy, and Farraday, aided by the various learned societies, the munificence of private individuals, and miserably small grants of money from the State, the report asserts that even the scientific labourer is worthy of his hire, and that "the witnesses have expressed themselves strongly as to the justice and policy of remunerating investigators for their time and trouble, and the evidence also shows by implication how great must have been the sacrifices of those who, without private fortune, have hitherto devoted their great talents and their valuable time to such work without any remuneration whatever." The Commissioners say further:

"Passing to the question of the advancement of science, we have arrived at the conclusion that much has to be done which will require continuous efforts on the part of the administration, *unless we are content to fall behind other nations* in the encouragement which we give to pure science, and, as a consequence, to incur the danger of losing our pre-eminence in regard to its applications." "These considerations, together with others which have come before us in the course of our enquiry, have impressed upon us the conviction that the creation of a special ministry, dealing with science and with education, is a necessity of the public service."

They propose that a council, consisting of representatives of the chief scientific bodies in the United Kingdom, should be organised, in order that through it "the Minister of Science may obtain advice on questions involving scientific considerations, whether arising in his own department or referred to him by other departments of the Government."

WEDNESDAY, 15TH SEPTEMBER.

AN EFFORT is being made in London to establish a National Nursing Association, having for its object the establishment of "a standard for district nurses and nursing which may be applied by the association not to London only but eventually to all England."

THE MAIN DRAINAGE WORKS of London have been at last completed. This gigantic undertaking was commenced in 1859, and now, after a labour of sixteen years, and the expenditure of more than four million pounds sterling, the whole sewage of the 117 square miles inhabited by some four million persons, which constitutes the Metropolitan District, has been diverted from the Thames near London. The sewers row discharge their contents at Barking and Crossness, 14 miles below London Bridge.

A WRITER in a London journal thus notes the decline in the study of theology in Germany:

"Since the year 1862 the gross number of theological students in the German Universities has steadily decreased. During the summer semester of that year the whole amounted to 1,180 in the older Prussian provinces; in the winter of 1875 they had decreased to 580. The same falling off is apparent throughout the other German States. The decrease is doubtless, attributable to various causes, one of which is patent, viz. The poor salaries of pastors compared with the incomes derivable from other professions or from commerce. It may also be remarked that the eminence of the professors in the Universities generally has equally declined. The present dearth of great masters in Biblical literature is a fact to be noted and deplored. The University of Halle, which has always taken the lead in theology, has not now half of the 750 theological students which it had in the days of Gesenius. It is a remarkable fact that the illustrious Hebraist had once a class of 500, even when lecturing on the book of Isaiah, after he had published his commentary upon it. The greatest men in theological literature have departed, after leaving an indelible mark of their mind upon one or more parts of it—Ewald, Hupfeld, and Hitzig on the Old Testament; De Wette, Strauss, and Baur upon the New. Had Zeller not abandoned the study of the New Testament for philosophy, his work on the Acts of the Apostles shows what he could have achieved. I fear, however, that scholars are not now encouraged in Germany as they were in former years, the military and polemic spirit having drawn away attention from their just claims. They are inadequately remunerated."

THE MADRAS MAIL states that the officiating Chief Commissioner of British Burmah intends making an attempt to improve the breed of sheep in that province, and has applied to the Commissioner of Patna for one hundred ewes and four rams of the pure Patna breed, for an experiment. We trust his experiments may terminate more satisfactorily than those attempted under the auspices of the Punjab Government about two years back.

ACCORDING to the New York papers a remarkable similarity has been discovered between the Swedish language and the dialect of the Cheyenne Indians. A Swede, who had enlisted at Fort Lesvenworth, overhearing some conversation amongst certain Cheyennes, was so much struck with the resemblance of their language to his own, that he addressed him in his mother tongue, which he found they could perfectly well understand.

RAJA NARENDRA KRISHNA BAHADUR has been exempted by the Lieutenant-Governor from personal attendance in Civil Courts.

THERE ARE AT PRESENT in France 3,367 *bureaux* for succouring the poor, being one office for every three communes, with a revenue of seventeen and a quarter million francs; one-eighth of this sum being absorbed in Paris, and one-fifth of the total devoted to administrative expenses. The number of inscribed poor is one million and a half, or one for every 12 of the adult population, representing 483,000 families.

THE PRINCIPAL of the Nagpore School of Medicine thus makes mention of the native staff of that institution in his last annual report:

"A change has taken place in the staff of teachers since last report. In June last Babu Nundo Lall Ghose, teacher of Materia Medica and Chemistry was transferred in the same capacity to the Bankipur Temple Medical School. He was succeeded by Assistant Surgeon Kali Kissen Ghose, who joined in September last. I am glad to state that during the short time he has been attached to the school he has given me much satisfaction and has shown himself a careful and pains-taking teacher. Babu Doorga Dass Roy and Jadub Kissen Ghose also deserve my best thanks, for the careful and energetic way in which they have conducted their duties and which has already carried for them the commendation of the Chief Commissioner. The former has been appointed to the Dacca school, and he has lately left to join his appointment, and his successor, Assistant Surgeon Jadoo Nath Ghose, has arrived. In consequence of this change, I recommended a redistribution of the duties of the teachers, which has received the sanction of the Surgeon General. Assistant Surgeon Jadub Kissen Ghose has hitherto borne more than his fair share of work, having had to teach two subjects, Anatomy and Surgery, while holding executive charge of the Mayo Memorial Hospital. He has now been appointed teacher of Medicine, for which he is eminently fitted, and Assistant Surgeon Jadoo Nath Ghose becomes teacher of Surgery and Anatomy. By this arrangement Jadub Kissen Ghose is relieved of half his original lecture work, and is able to give a greater amount of time to the care of the hospital and clinical teaching. Hospital Assistant Dil'awar Khan has continued to be useful as a Demonstrator and Librarian. He has also left for Raipur and in his place a promising passed student of this year, Abdul Kuroem Khan, has been appointed."

THURSDAY 16TH, SEPTEMBER.

IN ANOTHER column we notice an inter-widow-marriage. A correspondent informs us that no less than four widow marriages took place in Assam last year. The names of the bride-grooms are as follows: Roy Gunaviram Barua and Pandit Gurunath Datta of Nowgong, Pandit Baradanath Haldar of Goalpara and Babu Troylakhanath Sirkar of Gowhati.

A REMARKABLE Mahomedan gentleman has passed away. Syud Karamat Ali, the Matwali of the Hooghly Emambara, is dead. We take the following biographical sketch from the *Englishman*:

"A Noteworthy man has passed away from among the Muhammadans, whose loss it will be difficult to repair. Sayud Karamat Ali, the Matwali of the Hughli Imambara, who died on Friday, the 10th, was a man whose reputation was not confined to his co-religionists. The friend of Conolly, Pottinger, Stoddart, and Burnes, he was valued by all who came in contact with him for his integrity and uprightness of character. When only about 18 years of age, he left this country for Persia, studying Moslem law and literature at Meshed, Teheran, Shiraz, and Kum, the most famous seats of Muhammadan learning in those days. In his travels through Persia, Khorasan, and Kabul, he was always received with honour and friendly courtesy by the sovereigns and chiefs who at that time ruled those countries. He was an especial favourite of Dost Muhammad Khan and his brother Abdul Jabar Khan. When Arthur Conolly commenced his hazardous undertaking of reaching India via Afghanistan, Sayud Karamat Ali was attached to him by the English ambassador at Teheran to lead him safe to the British territories. The difficulty of the task imposed on Sayad Karamat Ali are described in "Conolly's Travels." We need only say here that when Conolly and his "friend and tutor," as he always calls the Sayad in his book, arrived in India, Sayad Karamat Ali was received with the greatest consideration by Lord and Lady William Bentinck, and all the English officers in the country. Shortly afterwards he was deputed to the Court of Kabul as British Vakil. He held this important post, the duties of which he discharged with remarkable tact and ability, for the space of about two years. On his return to India, the Government, in recognition of his services, conferred on him the sadr-aminship of Ajmir. In 1837 he was made the 'Matwali' of the Mohsin Endowment at Hughli. At that time there was no imambara to speak of; a ruinous little building answered the purpose equally of an imambara and mosque. It was solely through Sayad Karamat Ali's exertions that the magnificent structure which now forms the pride of the Musalman community was erected. For 38 years he held this office, honoured and respected by all. During the long tenure of his office he added largely to the wakis properties of the imambara out of his own private income. He also created a magnificent library, and attached it to the imambara."

The deceased was the best Persian scholar in India. He was a profound mathematician. Although not acquainted with any of the European languages he kept himself well informed of European politics, and could talk familiarly on questions connected with European States.

WE ARE sorry to record the death of another Indian gentleman, who in his own sphere was a man of some mark. Pundit Anandachunder Vedantabagish, one of the pastors of the Adi Brahma Samaj, is dead. This gentleman was one of the four who about thirty years ago were deputed by Babu Debendranath Tagore to Benares to study the Vedas. The deceased took up the Vedantas, and acquired great proficiency on this subject. On his return he was installed as a pastor of the Samaj. Since then he was attached to it barring a short interval. He was highly respected for his learning, suavity of disposition, and exemplary character.

THE EAST states that some Native Christians of Dacca have got up a jattra, the subject of which is the creation of Adam and Eve. The party gave two performances in the compound of the Baptist mission church. This is the first time we hear of a Christian jattra.

MR. JUSTICE JACKSON has started on a judicial tour. Is it not too late in the day to undertake this tour as the Doorga Puja holidays are close upon the Courts and the Judges must be hurrying on their work in order to clear their files for the vacation?

THE ARMY AND NAVY GAZETTE believes that the recess will be anything but a holiday at the War Office. Mr. Hardy will apply himself and the whole strength of his department to the preparation of a complete series of measures, to be presented to Parliament on the opening of the next session, for the thorough organization of the British Army. What about the reform of the Indian Army which it was said had been taken in hand by Lord Northbrook?

WE NOTICE that Babu Monmatha Mullick and Babu Brojendranath Dey have returned from England, the former as Barrister-at-law, and the latter as a covenanted civilian.

FRIDAY, 17TH SEPTEMBER.

ACCORDING to the *Englishman's* London Correspondent an advertisement has appeared in a Manchester paper announcing the formation of a Baker fund to defray the expenses of the Col's trial, and to pay the fine which was imposed upon him by the Judge. Such is English morality.

THE SAME PAPER has received the following telegram from Madras: "Last week there were two hundred and seventy three deaths from cholera at Vellore. It is still virulent. Thirty to forty daily at Salem. All the schools have been closed. The Collector has ordered two hundred rockets to be let off nightly. At Mysore cholera is decreasing, but has appeared slightly at Kurnool."

A CONTEMPORARY says that the result of the late session of the British Parliament, which commenced on the 5th February and ended on the 13th of August, was the production of 96 public, 215 local, and seven private Acts. In the preceding session there were, singularly enough, the same number of public statutes and 200 local and nine private Acts. In 1873 there were 91 public, 253 local, and two private Acts; while in 1872 there were 98 public, 200 local and seven private Acts, and in the previous year 117 public, 206 local, and nine private Acts. In the last five years 498 public Acts have been passed.

A BILL has been introduced in the Governor General's Council the object of which is to provide an appeal from the judgment of a single or two Judges of the Punjab Chief Court to a full bench of three Judges.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Times of India* writes:—"Mr. R. Ragoonath Rao, the Dewan of Indore, is deservedly popular, and is so affable and courteous to all, that he redresses wrongs and hears petitions in person. He is incessantly engaged in work. He is a gentleman of self-denying habits and entirely devoted to public interests." It is added that he has been appointed Dewan on Rs. 200 a month for three years certain.

DR. COATES, Sanitary Commissioner of Bengal, thus traces the connection of the moon with fever: "In thinking through the subject, and seeing the effect of aerial moisture in determining fever attacks, it struck me that during spring tides, that is, at new moon periods, when water encroaches to its highest, and ebbs to its lowest, the greatest amount of moist decomposable debris is exposed to evaporation, which, rising in the air, may pass far beyond the tidal range. The proposed explanation may not be the correct one, still the subject deserves further attention."

IT IS STATED that Mr. Melvill of the Punjab, who was a member of the Baroda Commission, will succeed Sir Richard Meade as Resident at Baroda.

THERE WAS a religious riot between two parties of Hindus at Poona the other day. It was evidently an indirect result of the teachings of Dayanund Saraswattee Swamy against idolatry.

SATURDAY, 18TH SEPTEMBER.

THE KING OF BURMA proposes to have a Railway in his country. The following terms it is stated have been agreed to:

"1st.—The whole line of railway from the frontier to the town of Mandalay is to be commenced within two years and to be fully completed within five years.

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2nd.—The contractors are to bear the entire cost of the railway, the King simply guaranteeing 10 per cent. on the amount, and in case he wishes to purchase the railway to have the option of doing so by paying the original cost, with an addition of 10 per cent.

3rd.—The contractors to have the privilege of working certain mines on the payment of a royalty.

It is stated that the Italian Company are confident of constructing the line at the rate of Rs. 50,000 per Burmese mile.

THE FRIEND OF INDIA notes that the French are making great progress in Cochin China. They have three open ports in Tonquin, and foreigners can travel into the interior under passport from the French Consul.

THE SAME PAPER says that the original estimate of the cost of disestablishing the Irish Church was £8,650,000, amended after the final alterations in the Bill to £9,530,000. Even this estimate is exceeded, and the cost will not be less than £11,56,0000. On the other hand the value of the Church property proves to be greater by three-quarters of a million than Mr. Gladstone supposed. The Commissioners reckon therefore upon a surplus of £51,80,000, notwithstanding the fact that the private endowments taken over by them in lieu of which a round sum of £500,000 was paid over to the Representative Church Body, is found to be only £350,000 with heavy liabilities to be met out of the sum.

IT WAS REPORTED last week that the young Nizam of Hyderabad had refused to meet the Prince of Wales, and the explanation that followed, to the effect that the Nizam's advisers were far from being unwilling that he should wait upon the Prince, but that the boy was of too tender years and delicate constitution for the journey. In the face of the testimony of Major Clarke, of the medical attendants on the Nizam, and of the Hyderabad officials, that the child is unequal to the fatigue and excitement of the journey and the durbar, it was most unwise to ask it. It is reported that on account of the Nizam's inability to meet the Prince either at Bombay or Calcutta, the Prince's visit to Hyderabad is not to take place. We hope this is not true. It is now stated that the Nizam has consented to come to Bombay.

THE MADRAS papers report a serious out-break of cattle-disease of a peculiar type in Wynaad. The natives call it "Dod-roga," a term which is supposed to mean "big epidemic." It appears to fasten upon the fattest and healthiest cattle in the herd, and an animal that seems in perfect health over night may be found dead in the morning. On one estate at Kalpathi 120 buffaloes are said to have died in less than two months.

THE date of the departure of the overland mail from Calcutta will be altered from Tuesday to Friday on the 1st of October, the last mail to be despatched on a Tuesday being on the 21st instant.

WE take from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

Belgrade 10th September.—Prince Milan at the opening of the Servian Parliament earnestly alluded to the insurrection which is disturbing Servian borderland, and to the concentration of Turkish troops upon the frontier. He said he trusted that the Sultan and the Great Powers will discover means to pacify and satisfy the population, and promised to contribute to the restoration of an orderly condition of affairs.

Madrid, 13th September.—The Spanish ministry has resigned the new ministry under the presidency of the General Jovellar is favourable to the election of the Cortes by universal suffrage.

Berlin 13th September.—Bismarck has submitted a bill to Bundsrath, fixing January 1876 for the introduction of the gold standard throughout the empire.

Belgrade, 15th September.—The Servian Parliament is divided upon the adoption of an address to the throne, there is a strong minority favouring declaration of war.

London, 15th September.—News from Herzegovina is conflicting. According to official Turkish telegrams, the insurgents are yielding and dispersing. Other accounts report serious fighting, as well as several defeats to the Turkish troops.

Paris, September 17.—An interview has taken place between M. Thiers and Prince Gortschakoff at Vevey. The latter feared that the French Government would be carried away by clerical re-action regarding the Eastern question. He said its solution was momentarily adjourned. He could, nevertheless, forsee the autonomy of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the rectification of the Montenegrin Frontier with a port on the Adriatic.

THE LAST MAIL brings the intelligence of the death of two Bengal Civilians, Sir Frederic Currie and Mr. Gordon Young. The first having served with distinction in India distinguished himself as Deputy Chairman and Chairman of the Court of Directors and subsequently became a member of the Indian Council. The last was the first Director of Public Instruction in Bengal.

"THE FATHER OF THE PRESS" will not let us alone. After having exhausted his vocubulary of Billingsgate upon us, which we may assure him we will not imitate in deference to his hoary head, he drags our name in connection with certain titular distinctions, which we may tell him we have never aspired to, and which we would fain see conferred upon him in recognition of his fatherhood, if not his high character as a model journalist. May we be permitted to correct his self-deception on this subject? About three years ago a rumour was put in circulation by a native journal that the editor of this paper would be made a Rai Bahadur, and the *Daily News* of this morning repeats it, charges Sir Richard Temple with the desire of conferring the honor, and says that the rumour has not been contradicted. Now three years before Sir Richard Temple was not the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, and a contradiction of the rumour appeared in an editorial paragraph in the *News*, *vide* its file for February or March 1872. We do not care for the thousand and one rumours that may be set afloat about us by friends or foes, but we notice the statement about the rumour in question being uncontradicted as an illustration of the failing memory of the aging "father."

THE GREAT Mullick Adoption Case has been decided by the High Court. The adoption of Jogendranath Mullick by the late Babu Chaitunchurn Mullick has been declared valid and the sum of Rs. 4000 has been decreed to the widow of the deceased for her maintenance annually. The hearing of this case lasted seven days. The Chief Justice and Justice Macpherson composed the Division Bench. It is believed that an appeal will be preferred to the Privy Council.

KALLYCHURN RUKHIT charged with murdering a woman of the town was tried by the High Court yesterday and sentenced to be hanged. He received the sentence with perfect *non-chalance*. It is said that he laughed when the sentence was passed!

IT IS STATED that Maharaja Sir Drigbejoy Sing of Balrampore has been appointed a member of the Governor General's Council.

IT IS rumoured that Mr. Robert Knight proposes to bring out a new Agricultural Journal in November next.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals: 1. Annual Report of the Sanitary Commissioner of the Central Provinces for the year 1874. 2. Report with the Chief Commissioner's Review on the Forest Administration of the Central Provinces for the year 1874-75. 3. Fifty-Seventh Report of the Directors of the East Indian Railway Company 1st July 1875. 4. Krishi Chundika or Agricultural Manual in Bengali Part I. and II. Compiled by Umeshchunder Sen Gupta. 5. Varatar Sukha Sasi Javana Kabola or the Moon of India's Bliss under the Mahomedans—a drama in Bengali by Nobinchundra Vydyaratna, Professor of Sanskrit, Metropolitan College. 6. Suttia-Buttee a drama in blank verse. in Bengali. 7. The Calcutta Journal of Medicine, No. 10 to 12 Vol. VII. from October to December 1874. 8. Bunga Mohila No. 2 Vol. I. for the month of Bhadra, 1282, B. S. 9. Verbatim Report of the Debate on the Indian Civil Service in the House of Commons, June 29, 1875.

MR. SUTCLIFFE has taken leave for seven weeks and not for six months as was erroneously stated in our last. It is believed that after the expiration of his leave he will not join the Director's office but revert to the Presidency College.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1875.

THE IMPORT DUTY ON LONG-STAPLED COTTON.

BOMBAY has spoken out against the import duty on long-stapled cotton. In a recent issue we noticed a memorial of the Bombay branch of the East Indian Association against it. The Mill-owners' Association have also protested against it. We now read that the Bombay Chamber of Commerce has moved in the matter. On the 11th instant a meeting of the Chamber was held to consider this question, Mr. J. A. Forbes, of Messrs. Forbes & Co., took the chair. The following Resolutions were passed with one dissentient vote:

"That this meeting protests against the duty of 5 per cent. *ad valorem* levied, under the Indian Tariff Act, 1875, on raw cotton, not the produce of Continental Asia or Ceylon, imported into British India as an unjust and impolitic restriction on the manufactures of India, and contrary to that sound principle of the commercial policy of England, and of other enlightened nations, which requires the State to give every encouragement to the free importation of the raw materials necessary for the development and extension of native manufactures. That the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce be requested, on behalf of this meeting, to submit the foregoing resolution to the Government of India, with a memorial praying that the duty of 5 per cent. on raw cotton, not the produce of Continental Asia or Ceylon, imported into British India, be immediately repealed."

Mr. Maxwell (W. Nicol and Co.,) remarked that the fact of the Government bringing in such a bill, shewed what the strength of the Manchester influence really was, and he proceeded to compare the position of the English and the Indian mill-owner. "In India mills cost more than they did in England, as they had to be built more commodiously than they were in England, and they had to use better timber owing to white ants and dry rot; again the machinery cost more, as they had to pay the freight, landing charges, insurance &c., before it got out here. It was true that the cost of labor was less here than in England, but then on the other hand they had to get out skilled labour from England for the more important posts." It is gratifying to observe that the Europeans and natives are going hand in hand in this matter. The present import duty on cotton goods is not a protective duty; this the Government of India has frequently admitted, and it is on this ground it has refused to lower it. But with strange inconsistency it has imposed a duty on long-stapled cotton because, as it thinks, it ought to put the manufactured goods of Manchester and India on an equal footing. This means that it is the duty of Government to adjust or equalize the profits of the manufacturers in the two countries. Now we ask in the name of political economy, common sense, and justice whether that is the function of Government? and is the Government in a position to fulfil such a task? As the Bombay Chamber of Commerce shews, and as we have shewn over and over, India labors under great disadvantages in competing with Manchester, and that the import duty of 5 per cent. does not counterbalance those disadvantages, and what has the Government of India done to equalize the position of India and Manchester in this respect? It is significant that English journalists of the highest repute even defend protection in order to do justice to India. Thus the *Pall Mall Gazette* says: "It is assuredly true that protective tariffs have tempted many countries to fritter away their energies and waste their natural wealth; but it is also true that such tariffs have also taught many countries the strength of which they were ignorant. But for the artificial profits which protective duties give, much of the producing power of the world would have remained dormant or sterile. An import duty which taught the Natives of India that they could spin and weave cotton by machinery as cheaply and easily as Englishmen in England will have added to the wealth both of India and of the world. Granting, however, that this duty—just reduced, as the telegraph informs us, by the India Government—is open to all the objections which Political Economists can direct against it, it is still a question whether the natives of India have any reason to desire its removal. In point of fact, it stands between them and a most odious tax. If it is repealed, the very considerable revenue which it brings in must be replaced somehow, and it can only be replaced by a direct tax on incomes. One method only there is of reaching the hoarded wealth which to a great extent escapes taxation; but every time it has been attempted it has been received with a chorus of execration, and two years since Lord Northbrook abandoned it amidst universal applause from the Indian community and general congratulation from the press and public of this country. What Mr. John Cross and those whom he represents are, in fact, demanding is an Indian income tax; and this happens to be one of the few subjects on which the Indian population has succeeded in making its real opinions known. We should like to know what justification there can possibly be for forcing direct taxation upon it; for the sake of removing one particular indirect tax which stands between Lancashire and the market which it has placed in jeopardy by its own dishonesty. Protection may be not an economical but a moral delinquency; it may

stand on the same level with those national sins of suttee and infanticide of which gentlemen from India are apt to talk a little too much; but in that case we had better begin with extirpating it in Australia. No doubt there is force enough in the Empire to put down the wretched fiscal system which is stunting the youthful vigour of such a colony as Victoria; and if it is not exerted for that purpose, while it is used to destroy the Indian import duty on cottons which is only incidentally protective, there can be but one view taken of the motives which lead us to strike in one direction and spare in another."

Refecring to Lord Shaftesbury's move in the House of Lords regarding factory labor the same writer says: "Lord Salisbury, when promising inquiry into the alleged overwork of the operatives in the Indian cotton-mills, expressed some fear that any interference with them would be regarded by the Natives of India as a conspiracy of men interested in the Manchester trade to put down the new Indian industry. Conspiracy is a hard word, but the natives of India must be a great deal stupider than we take them to be if they fail to detect the Manchester wolf under the grand-motherly disguise of Lord Shaftesbury. Beyond all question, this sudden sympathy with the dark-skinned Indian working man had its origin in the fear and jealousy aroused in the North of England by a new and dangerous competition in a valuable market. We dare say that it was quite right to direct an inquiry, but it is obvious that it should extend beyond the mere question of the hours of labour. Before the natives of India are deprived of their natural right to work as many hours as they please, it should be ascertained what will be the exact result of the restriction. How far will it affect wages; how far will it tend to put an entire stop to the new industry; and to what sort of position and to what sort of earnings will the operatives be remitted if the mills are closed? Again, before a workman so little understood by us as an Indian is forbidden to remain a given number of hours in a factory we ought to know what sort of life, if so forbidden, he will be driven to lead at home. Lord Shaftesbury has probably before his mind's eye a distinct picture of the British workman released from labour at four or five o'clock by beneficent legislation. He takes tea with his wife and children; he reads the Bible to them: he walks with them in the fields. Do the natives of India drink tea with their wives and children? Do they read good books to them? Do they take walks in the fields? We ought to be quite sure that they will not be better employed if they are permitted to remain in the cotton-mills."

There is but one opinion in India about Lord Shaftesbury's move. It is this that it is a covert design to favor Manchester. The only circumstance now in favor of India in the manufacture of cotton goods is the comparative cheapness of labor; destroy this element by a seven hours' bill, and Manchester will have entire possession of the field. We are sorry that while Lord Northbrook has shewn such marked independence of Manchester in revising the Tariff, his Lordship should have committed the sad blunder of imposing the duty on raw cotton. It looks like a sop to Cerberus, but unfortunately it will not take. We fear that Manchester will not be satisfied with this bribe, while all India is indignant about it. It is a pity that the splendid commercial policy which his Lordship has enunciated by the new tariff is sullied with this single and indelible blot.

THE CIVIL SERVICE MONOPOLY.

THE JUDICIAL COMMISSIONER of Sind has addressed an excellent letter to the Government of Bombay in reply to a circular on the subject of the Civil Service monopoly. All monopolies are bad, and he would therefore put an end to the Civil Service monopoly. He says, "the present system is that the Civil Service appointments in India form a monopoly, and that persons are admitted to a share in this monopoly through competition." He proposes to retain the competition but to do away with the monopoly; granting instead to each successful candidate a certain rate of pay varying according to his length of service. This personal allowance would be the "pay of his rank," and would be a sort of retaining fee in consideration of which the civilian would hold himself at the orders of the Indian Government. All appointments might then be thrown open, the only difference being that when one of these appointments was held by a civilian, he would draw the pay of his rank in addition to that of the appointment. "A similar system," he observes, "exists already I believe with regard to the Public Works Department. A certain salary is fixed for, say, an Executive Engineer. If a Civil Engineer or a Native is appointed to this post he draws this salary, which corresponds with the value of the work to be done. If a Royal Engineer is appointed he draws in addition to the salary, the pay of his rank."

He discusses the advantages of the system he advocates under three heads: (1) financial, (2) administrative, and (3) political. One chief cause of India's financial difficulties, says the Judicial Commissioner, is the necessity of supporting the Government by foreigners, and, he adds, unfortunately not only has foreign labor to be paid for at a high rate, but that high rate has become the standard for all salaries throughout the country. So that the Indian tax-payer has to pay wages in excess of market rates for labour obtainable on the spot, whether European or Native. He thus illustrates his meaning. "Some years ago Government decided to establish Small Cause Courts in the Mofussil, and the salaries of the Judges were fixed at rates (Rs. 800 to 1,200 per mensem,) sufficient to secure the services of Civilians of the requisite standing and experience. These appointments (not being reserved by the Act of Parliament) have now all passed out of the hands of the Civil Service; but the rates continue the same, and thus we find a Native gentleman drawing Rs. 1,200 as Judge of the Court at Poona. Now Country Court Judges in England and Sheriff Substitutes in Scotland receive about £800 per annum for doing this work. And I do not think that any one will deny that a Native gentleman living in his own country and among his friends would be amply paid for such work by a salary of Rs. 600 per mensem. With the offer of such a salary Government would be able to command the services of the best men obtainable in the Presidency. To pay more therefore is, *in a financial point of view*, wasteful and unfair to the tax-payer. Such being the result under the present arraugement, I will take the same instance to show the working of the proposed system. Suppose, by way of illustration, that a Civilian as personal allowance, or pay of his rank, drew Rs. 400 on first arrival, Rs. 500 after 5 years, and Rs. 600 after 10 years. It might be held that a Civilian of 10 years' standing was a proper person to appoint Judge of a Small Cause Court, and that Rs. 1,200 was a proper total salary for him. In that case the pay of the appointment would be fixed at Rs. 600; and whenever an outsider was appointed, a saving of Rs. 600 per mensem would accrue to the State. If this principle were adopted, there might be a general revision of salaries in order to make them correspond with the real value of the services rendered." If this principle be admitted the question would be why should a Civilian be admitted to a post, the duties of which might fairly be discharged by a qualified Native?

Looking at the question from an administrative point of view the Judicial Commissioner admits that although the Civil Service is in theory a monopoly, practically it is not so. He says that as a matter of fact administrative necessities have caused Government for many years to infringe the monopoly both in practice and by legislation, in spite of the repeated protests of those whose rights were thus invaded. It cannot therefore he thinks be doubted that the administration would be rendered more vigorous and elastic if the monolopy were done away with altogether, and the Government made free to select the best agency it could find. He continues: "Under the existing system the two main causes of complaint are, *(a) the insecurity of the monopoly, and (b) the discouragements of a seniority service.* (a) When I entered the service in 1860 the law in force with regard to the Civil Service was that contained in Sec. 57 of 33 Geo. III C 52, which provided that "all vacancies happening in any of the offices, places or employments in the Civil line of the Company's Service in India (being under the degree of Counsellor, shall be from time to time filled up and supplied from amongst the Civil Servants of the said Company." When therefore I was appointed (through competition) to the service I became entitled, by covenant with the Secretary of State, to a share in this monopoly which embraced all Civil appointments in India. But by the "Civil Service Act" these appointments were thrown open to outsiders, only a limited number of specified appointments being reserved by the schedule. And more recently the "East India Laws and Regulations Act" has provided that Natives of India may be mentioned even to the reserved appointments, without entering the service through competition. From this it will be seen that the share of monopoly assigned to me as a prize in 1860 is not now of great legal value. And unfortunately experience shows that to withdraw a class of appointments from the monopoly has not the effect of throwing them open to all alike, but in practice excludes Civilians altogether." The discouragements of a seniority service, the Judicial Commissioner argues, constitute a main cause why the service as at present composed favors mediocrity and is not attractive to more ambitious men. "Vacancies only occur by death or retirement so that promotion is slow, and a Civilian has to serve in subordinate and low paid appointments some 12 or 15 years, a period during which he may see his friends in open professions, lawyers, merchants, and doctors, retire from India with a competency." But these drawbacks, he thinks, would be removed by his scheme. For if the prize for competition consisted of certain definite payments, all feeling of insecurity would disappear. The position of the service would also be improved, in that it would no longer appear to the public as a monopoly antagonistic to outside merit; while an end would be put to the standing controversy with Government in which the service complains that its privileges have been invaded and that good faith has not been kept with. With regard to the political advantages of his scheme the writer makes the following remarks:

"It seems hardly necessary to enlarge on the general effect of so liberal a measure on the Native community; opening up to them as it would a real career in the public service of their own country. At present there exists a real political grievance with regard to the whole class of educated Natives, in that all the higher grades of appointments are filled by foreigners; and however capable and however trustworthy a Native may be, an artificial barrier prevents his rising to any post of real distinction. But when that artificial barrier is removed, the ambitious Native will cease to have any reason to desire the downfall of the British Government. The whole fund of Native energy and talent will be thrown into the balance in our favor, and our administration will tend to acquire the stability of a national Government. I do not of course overlook the instances in which Natives have forced their way into the Covenanted Service through competition. But these cases are exceptional ones; and the men who thus find entrance to the service have by their education and habits generally separated themselves from the mass of their countrymen. The residence in England tends to denationalize them; and, in regard to the people they have to rule over, they are often nearly as much foreigners as the English themselves."

We have endeavoured to give a fair summary of the arguments contained in the Judicial Commissioner's letter. We agree with him as regards the general principle. The time has come when the Civil Service monopoly should be done away with. It is now an anomaly, an anachronism. There were good reasons for it when it was first instituted. Then good men and true could not be found without being indented for from England. But the facilities of communication between England and India and the spread of education among the people of this country have removed the dearth of men capable of discharging high and responsible duties without coming through the doors of the Covenanted Civil Service. We do not clearly understand the plan of the Judicial Commissioner. It would seem that he would make the covenanted civilians begin from the beginning, and if a junior civilian be appointed to a post filled by an uncovenanted man, he would give him the salary of the post in addition to the "pay of his rank." But the question would arise, as we have observed above, why should a junior civilian be appointed to a post for which a competent person, be he native or European, may be found in the country. And

we may say generally that there is not a single appointment of the lower class, with which the junior civilian usually begins, which he holds for 10 or 12 years, and for which a competent person cannot be had in the country. The "monopoly" would not be removed, if only Europeans were to be admitted to the charmed circle, and if covenanted civilians to be appointed to posts which the Government might reserve for them as before. The percentage of such appointments might be fixed, and it would be one way of redressing the financial injustice, but it would not remove the monopoly. Our own idea on the subject is different. We would have one door for admission of all persons into the public service of India, viz., competition, and we would have competitive examinations both in England and in India. The standard for the competitive test should be the same. Let the first admission be made dependant upon this test, and let promotion be regulated by merit and not by the rule of seniority. As for salaries by all means revise them, but an invidious distinction between the European and the native in the payment of salary would lower the status of the latter, stamp him as an inferior being, and have a demoralizing effect upon the service. There are some appointments, which we admit in the present political circumstances of the country ought to be reserved for first class Europeans, and we would have this reservation made by law. It is true that such reservation would be tantamount to a monopoly, even though the number of appointments be limited, but this condition cannot be avoided. The English are the rulers of the country, and they must keep in their hands the reins of Government. And no sensible and right-thinking native can justly complain of such an arrangement. It is a political necessity. The present system of the Civil Service monopoly is not however such a necessity, and ought therefore to be done away with. It is a standing injustice to the children of the soil, because it operates as a bar to their inherent, right to the service of their own country, because it unduly presses upon the revenue, and because it puts the uncovenanted officers under perpetual proscription.

THE NECESSITY OF A POSTAL COMMISSION.

THE ghost of Denobundhu Mitter cries for revenge. That devoted and distinguished postal officer, who was made a Rai Bahadur in recognition of his services, died of broken heart in consequence of gross injustice done to him. The abuses which he then sought to unveil are now it seems coming to light. If the rumours which have reached us from time to time be true, it requires the hand of a Hercules to clear the Augean stable of the Post Office. Already we hear the attention of Mr. F. R. Hogg, the officiating Director General of the Post Office, has been drawn to the malpractices which are believed to have been going on in the department for some years past undiscovered and unchecked. Mr. Verner, the present Officiating Post Master General of Bengal, has been directed to take the matter in hand, and he has, we learn, set on foot a searching enquiry. Previous to this enquiry an investigation was made by Mr. Gribble, the late Post Master General, into the conduct of the head-clerk of his office. What were the facts elicited by this investigation? Have all the facts brought into light been put on record? This is what the public have no opportunity of knowing. We only know that the head-clerk, Mr. Allnutt, has been removed from his office, and appointed an Officiating Inspector, that is reduced from Rs. 350 a month to Rs. 125. This is a severe punishment, and there must have been good reasons for it. Was he deemed unworthy of the confidence of the Post Master General, and if he was so deemed whilst he was under the very eyes of his official superior, with what consistency has confidence been placed in him when he would be out of sight? Of course we know nothing of his case, and cannot therefore form any opinion about it, but looking upon the surface of the matter the inconsistency noticed by us is glaring. But we do not care what punishment may be meted out to a particular officer—we want the facts which have come to light, and wish to know what light they throw upon the general administration of the Post Office. We are glad to learn that the Officiating Director General has taken the matter in hand in right earnest. But we doubt whether a departmental enquiry would be sufficient. We have every confidence in Mr. Verner. But as departmental heads both Mr. Hogg and Mr. Verner will be naturally anxious to see that though individual officers may be condemned the character of the general administration do not suffer. This is a natural feeling and failing, and it is therefore necessary in the public interests that they should leave the enquiry in the hands of an independent Commission. Who knows that some of the higher officers, now in the confidence of the Director, may not be implicated, and it is very hard for a departmental head to shake off his confidence in those near him and whom he has always trusted. But justice may not be done if these higher officers be not reached. The herd of unprotected and unpatronized employes of a department are generally victimized whenever there is a public hue and cry, but we hope that such will not be the case in this postal investigation. Of course we make no insinuations against any body, but we are convinced that a loose or corrupt system cannot prevail to a large extent in any office or department without gross laches if not something worse on the part of the superior officers. If as rumours say abuses and malpractices have been flourishing in the Post Office for years without let or hindrance the question arises, how have they hitherto gone on undetected and the culprits unpunished? We are aware that now and then sacrifices have been offered to the shrine of public indignation in the person of petty clerks and peons, and yet the abuses have not ceased. This leads one to suppose that there must be something rotten in the state of Denmark. And this rottenness in our humble opinion can be best discovered and tested by an independent Commission.

As for the enquiry now going on we have a few suggestions to offer. Should not those officers; against whom sufficient facts have been adduced in the evidence already collected, be deprived of the power and influence which their position in the office gives them, and which enable them to frighten away witnesses by threats and intimidation? Then should not all correspondence between the Post Master General and the Director be carried on directly, and all communications be opened by these officers with their own hands? We have heard of stories of appointments having been sold, contractors trumped up with hush money, extortion practised upon helpless inferior employes, loans contracted in the office, and thefts of articles entrusted to the post for conveyance and delivery. Of course these are one-sided statements, which may or may not be true, and regarding which we do not express opinion one way or another. It is also doubtful whether all that we have heard can be proved satisfactorily. Be that as it may the whole administration of the Post Office requires a sifting investigation, and while we anxiously await the results of the departmental enquiry set on foot, public interests require that a full investigation should be made by an independent Commission of Enquiry.

CHINA.

THE *Times* gives an interesting review of the reports of Her Majesty's Consuls in China, which contain a vivid picture of the trade of that country. As a general rule they shew that the foreign trade of China is on the increase, but it is said that it is more and more changing its complexion. The *Times* says, a period of encroachments has again set in, and native traders, as well as native officials, are steadily pursuing a course inimical to all foreign interests. To some extent, we are told, foreign merchants are themselves to blame for this state of things. They, it appears, took, some years ago, a rather questionable mode of extending their business in the interior of the empire. Under the Transit Pass clause of the last treaty, foreigners enjoyed an advantage over natives in being enabled to send cotton and woollen goods into the interior by paying a fixed Transit duty amounting to half the import duty, while natives remained subject to the capricious exactions of the Mandarins. Under that system the trade was pretty well divided between foreigners and natives, the latter buying from the former, and taking their chance of getting the goods through. But the foreigners were not content with that arrangement; thay wanted to control more fully the internal trade, and to that end sold the use of their names to native traders, who were thus able to pass goods that they had brought into the heart of the country under the Transit duty. This acted very well for a time, but, being resorted to by all native dealers, it seems to have gradually caused the Transit trade to drift into their hands, and now it is impossible to get goods into the interior from some ports, except by means of native guilds who charge just what duty they please. Thus the *benami* system is working its own revenge. In spite of this enormous drawback, the volume of foreign trade with China is increasing, and native merchants do not materially trench on the ground of the importer. So far as may be gathered from the reports, no other nation competes seriously with the English in supplying China with manufactured goods. Importations of Manchester cottons continue to increase at really surprising rate, and there is only a competition with Russia in the coarser kinds of woollen fabrics. The shipping trade remains chiefly in the hands of the English and those of the Americans, whose river boats on the Yangtse Kiang carry on a large traffic. Ocean traffic is of course, divided between America, France, and the English, but the latter has the lion's share. Here, however, the Chinese themselves have entered on a rivalry which may possibly in time become serious, although as yet spoken lightly of. They have established a native steamship company for river and coasting traffic.

One of the chief topics in the report is the Opium trade. All testimony seems to concur in substantiating the fact that the competition of native grown opium is nearly gaining ground upon the Indian. There is still a great demand, of course, for the Indian drug, and a great deal of the native is used either merely to supplement it or by the people in districts where but for it no opium would have been used at all. But, making allowance for these considerations, it remains that the native opium is gaining ground. A taste for it is said to be growing up among people who formerly smoked Indian, and the consistently hostile policy of Chinese officials in many places fosters the former against the latter. But they handle the conflicting opium interests with their accustomed skill. Against the native grower all manner of edicts are fulminated. He is forbidden under the severest penalties to cultivate the poppy and then when he defies the law officials are able to make him pay what they please for his impunity in doing so. But the guilds interfere with the opium trade in the same way in which they interfere with other branches of foreign trade. If a foreign merchant pays the Transit duty and sends his opium into the interior, nobody will say him nay. But he will not be able to sell it freely when once he has got it in. Whenever he makes a sale the purchaser will be pounced upon to pay to the guild at least twice the duty that it would have exacted had the merchant consigned his opium to its charge at the first. The opium trade is thus now almost entirely in the hands of native traders and smugglers, who ship it from Hongkong and Shanghai to the other ports and take it inland as best they can. This question demands the earnest consideration of our Government. The exports of China beyond tea and silk are chiefly noticeable for the indication they afford of what China might be capable of were it opened up and free like a civilized country. There is nothing to hinder China from becoming a great exporter of raw cotton, wool, metals, coal, corn, tobacco, sugar, and a host of other things which the rest of the world could find room for and consume. There is, as things are, a very encouraging increase in the export of sugar, and the Consul at Swatow says that much land in his neighbourhood hitherto used for growing rice has been planted with sugar-cane. A British firm has recently established machinery for crystalizing the raw sugar with considerable success, and doubtless, if let alone, this might soon become a great Chinese industry. The industrial activity of China as we shewed last week is increasing,

and if the Chinese can shake off their jealousy of foreigners, they have a grand future before them.

THE INDIAN FINANCES.

THE *Times* published a valuable letter signed M. (Mr. Marshman ?) on the Indian Finances. The writer discusses the chief items of Indian revenue. He takes no gloomy view of the future of the opium revenue. He says: "Every analysis and experiment has proved the great superiority of the Indian article, and it seems now generally accepted that this superiority is quite sufficient to insure a continuance of the difference in price between the two kinds of opium. Probably the Chinese cultivation in one way even strengthens the basis on which the Indian revenue rests. That cultivation spreads the taste for opium in China and greatly adds to the number of consumers. We see similar results in our English tobacco and wine trades. The English public has double and treble the quantity of wine and tobacco offered to it now than was the case a few years ago, but the prices of the best brands of each have not been injuriously affected." With regard to salt the writer considers the abolition of its manufacture in Bengal a mistake. He observes:

"I cannot but think that it would be a bad day for India, should the same thing occur in the Madras and Bombay Presideucies, that has happened in the Bengal—namely, displacement of the locally-made salt by the foreign article. In Bengal, leaving out Orissa, 63,000,000 of people are dependent on English salt. In case of a war between England and any other maritime nation, say the United States, freights would rise, as also insurance on them and on ships. A great diminution in the quantity of salt shipped for India would necessarily follow. As the stock in bond in Calcutta is generally under a three months' supply, the price of salt there would at once spring up. The deficiency might be met gradually by importations from Madras and Bombay, and by Tambhur Lake salt brought by rail from the North-West Provinces; but these would be slow processes, for salt can only be manufactured at a certain season of the year. Meanwhile, and the more so that there is a great difference in the flavour of various kinds of salt, and that people accustomed to one kind will not readily take to another, there would be something very like a salt famine in Bengal. What the result would be if in addition to 63,000,000 of Bengalees 26,500,000 of Madrasis 12,000,000 of Bombayitees, and a large proportion of the 9,000,000 who in the Central Provinces consume mainly Bombay and Madras salt, were also dependent on English supplies, and if the facilities for manufacture in those Provinces had died out from disuse, it is appalling to think."

There is great truth in the above. Besides the fear of dearth of supply in case of a war which the writer entertains, the economic effects of the suppression of home manufacture would be disastrous. It maintains a large body of the population, and a greater misfortune cannot befall them than the closing of the salt manufacture on the coasts of Madras and Bombay. Indigenous industry has been encroached upon in several branches by the tide of foreign trade, and the British Government is directly responsible for the ruin which its policy has brought upon the industrial population of India. We do hope that the Government will have the strength of mind to resist the pressure of Liverpool and Cheshire for the destruction of the salt industry of this country.

The writer makes the following remarks on the import duties:

"Mr. T. Cross, in referring to the import duties in India on cotton manufactures, stated that "the Lancashire manufactures had no objection of free, fair, and other competition," but that in the competition with India, "they were heavily weighted." "He believed that the system of protection which we maintained in India was injurious to the Dependency." There appears to me to exist some misapprehension with regard to these duties in India on the import of cotton goods. The general view is, that of late the manufacture of all kinds of cotton goods in India has taken an immense development, and that similar goods imported from England have, consequently, to wage an unequal fight against the Indian article. Now, the real truth is that the competition exists only with reference to a certain class of goods and a small proportion of the English imports. The coarser kinds of twist and of cloth are alone manufactured in India. So far from the whole Manchester trade with India being subject to competition, it is the fact that, of the £842,000 of duty levied on cotton goods in 1874, not 1-12th was levied on the class of goods in which competition does exist, and even of that small proportion more than half was levied in Calcutta and Madras, where there is scarcely any competition at all.

Of course, it may be answered that this is no fair measure of the injury done to the Manchester trade, and that, but for the competition, and much larger quantity of the coarser kinds of yarn and cloth would be imported. There is some truth in this view of the case, and if the Manchester men asked for relief only on such classes of goods, it would be difficult to answer them. But they have taken advantage of the competition in a portion, and a small portion, of their imports, to denounce the duties on the whole trade as protective, and to enlist on their side, by this free trade cry, the sympathies of those who are not acquainted with all the facts of the case.

It is clear that the duty on cotton goods imported into India, if it be the protective and injurious duty it is represented to be, must have affected the amount of the imports. Now, what is the truth in this matter? In 1854-55, when there was no Indian competition at all, the value of all imports of cotton goods into India from England (including twist and yarn) was £6,537,564. Ten years later, in 1864-65, it had risen to £12,537,237. Nine years after, in 1873-74, under the heavy competition complained of—it had fallen! No, risen to £16,502,975.

There is no doubt, as Sir G. Campbell said, that "if the duty on cotton goods was abolished, the rest of the Customs revenue could hardly be maintained." That revenue is about two and a-half millions. If it be true, as reported by telegraph, that the Government in India have done away with all the duties on exports, except those on rice and paddy, a little over £200,000 must be struck off for the future. Strike out another £840,000 for duties on cotton goods, in case the Manchester men carry their point, and there would remain only something under a million and a half, of which more the half million is represented by the export duty on rice and paddy. Evidently, this would all have to go, partly because the cry of protection is as applicable to many other articles of import as to cotton goods, partly because when half a building is knocked down innumerable reasons can be brought against the retention of the remainder."

We entirely concur. We feel thankful to the Government of India for hitherto resisting the selfish demand of Manchester. The cry of protection raised by Cottonopolis is hollow to the core. There are so many counter-balancing advantages in favor of it against Indian competition that if there is protection on any side, it is on that of Manchester.

ROORKEE *Vrs.* COOPER'S HILL.

AS WE had anticipated Cooper's Hill has placed Roorkee at a disadvantage. The Principal of the Thomason College at Roorkee in his last annual report drew attention to this fact. He pointed out that the *alumni* of that institution, who pass the College test, and who are guaranteed appointments have to enter the service in the grade of Engineer Apprentice, while Cooper's Hill men enter the department directly as 2nd Grade Engineers, perpetually superseding men who are by no means their inferiors. We quote Major Lang's own words. He says: "In the Engineer Class *eighteen* have gained their Certificates as Assistant Engineers, and will, I hope, before long obtain appointments, although only *eight* of them can at once claim 'guaranteed' employment: and as the Establishment of most Provinces and Departments appear to be at present overstocked, and the large number of Assistants on their way to India from Cooper's Hill must receive appointments before the unguaranteed *ten* men from this College, these latter may have some time to wait before employment can be secured for them. This is unfortunate, not only as regards delay in commencing their career, the path of promotion, and the receipt of pay, but also the risk of their failing to keep up the professional acquirements they have gained here, just at the time when it is most necessary to consolidate these, and when the young passed Student fresh from his books and his first interest in new branches of learning is most ready to pick up and assimilate technical knowledge. Having regard to the low standing accorded to these young men, who, whether high or low on the Class lists, must under present rules commence as 'Apprentices,' I would again venture to urge the expediency of posting all of them, at once, to the Department: or in this grade of 'Apprentice,' and on the low pay of Rs. 100 per mensem, they would naturally be *supernumerary* to the proper Establishments of a Province; in the same sense as the Overseer Apprentices, who, under the new rules are rightly for their first year regarded as students learning the practical part of their profession, and as such are not to be employed in any way as Overseers or regarded as belonging to the regular strength of the establishment of the province in which they happen to be located. I would then urge that a similar rule should be followed in regard to the Engineer Apprentices: and that to mark the difference distinctly and to reward substantially those Students who stand highest in the Class lists, the *eight* senior guaranteed Students should join the Department as 3rd Grade Assistants, and the remainder (rather than be allowed to rust in idleness) be posted as Apprentices, and Supernumerary, until vacancies occur. The existing rules of the P. W. D. Code provide for the admission of the Engineering College Students to either the 3rd or to the Apprentice grade: so that no present rules and orders would be violated by the approval of this proposal. All the out-turn of a term cannot be of course of equal merit, but in regard to the few men who head the list every year, I am quite confident that they can well hold their own as intelligent, well educated Engineer Assistants, against all competitors of their own age; and this I maintain without any disparagement to their latest rivals, the Cooper's Hill men, of whom I have now seen some specimens, and am thus able to judge for myself, and to concur in what I have heard elsewhere, that they are first-rate men." We had anticipated this disadvantage to Roorkee men. Cooper's Hill men standing in the position of pet children of Government have of course all manner of indulgences shewn to them. In the first place a most expensive education is given to them at the expense of the Indian exchequer. In the second place more favorable terms for service are offered to them. In the third place they are the special care of Government. All this we submit is not in accordance with the profession of Government that Cooper's Hill would not supersede Roorkee.

In noticing Major Lang's report the *Indian Public Opinion* remarks: "There can be no doubt, as the learned Principal of the Thomason College points out, that the Roorkee Engineer, both by reason of his knowledge of the country, his acquaintance with the habits of the people, and at all events a fair colloquial knowledge of the vernacular, is a more useful Assistant to the Executive Engineer than the lately arrived Cooper's Hill man, who, though he lands as an Engineer of a higher grade, has to emerge from his natural state of griffinhood before he can commence to be of real use. Whether the representations of Major Lang are likely to be attended to or not, remains to be seen. We fear that strong as the Roorkee Engineers' claims are, and equitable though the demands they make be, there is very little hope of the proposals being acceded to, until the Government find out that they cannot help themselves. If both Roorkee and Cooper's Hill are to be sources from which the D. P. W. is to be supplied, it surely is to the interests of the Government to encourage both institutions as much as possible." We entirely agree. We consider it a gross injustice to the Indian institution that it should be placed below Cooper's Hill. We want fair field for all and favour for none. If the standard of education and training at Roorkee be not sufficiently high, by all means raise it, but to sink it is to sink the claims of the Indians. We are aware that not many Indians pass Roorkee, but that is because the Roorkee men had not had hitherto fair encouragement. The gravest complaint against the Government is that it does not foster indegenous talent, and the drawbacks which Major Lang points out sufficiently establish that complaint. There are not many among the Indians, who can afford to incur the expenses and perils of a journey to England for admission into the Cooper's Hill College; justice requires that every facility should be given to them for education in Roorkee. But why should they go to Roorkee if they find that the Indian mark is not a sufficient passport to the service?

HIGH EDUCATION IN BENGAL.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE bids fair to distinguish his administration as a zealous friend of education. We are glad to observe that while he is engaged in maturing the scheme of primary education, he has not neglected the claims of high education. In a minute published in the last *Calcutta Gazette* the Lieutenant Governor observes: "It were perhaps supersfluous to repeat what has been stated on previous occasions, to the effect that the great attention which is being paid to primary education is in no wise antagonistic to higher education. Much as the Government of Bengal may be convinced of the need of extending and elevating primary education, it is equally convinced of the need of extending and elevating high education also. Much as high education may have established itself in Bengal, it has not spread itself nearly enough. Superior as the "high" education may be to anything which existed in former times it is

yet far from being high enough, and ought if possible, to be rendered higher still. The best informed Bengalees will probably admit that high education in Bengal, greatly as it may have advanced, needs much further progress both as regards quality and quantity." We fully endorse this opinion, and we hope that while the Lieutenant Governor is considering the best means of extending higheducation, he will also direct his attention to the improvement of its quality. His Honor discusses the several schemes for the establishment of additional colleges and high schools in the territories under his sway. The colleges at Krishnaghur and Berhampore, says His Honor, were for divers reasons, among which was the paucity of higher students, reduced from the rank of full colleges to a rank corresponding to that of high schools: that is to say, the teaching for University degrees was discontinued, that for the First Arts examination only being maintained. Those interested in the Kishnagurh Colloge asked for its restoration to its former status. It was suggested to them that there might be some hope of this if a certain sum of money were raised by private munificence: this has now been arranged, and His Honor proposes to take the restoration into consideration. Whether the friends of the Berhampore College, if they desire to see that institution restored to its former status, will make any similar effort, His Honor remarks, remains to be seen. If they can do so with any chance of success, especially as regards producing a sufficient number of students, the same measure will be meted out to them as to the Kishnagurh community. The Midnapore High School has made a fair beginning, but it is regarded only as a preparatory institution for the colleges, as the Frist Arts standard, up to which it teaches, does not constitute a University degree, but is only a step towards such degree. As regards Behar, His Honor says, there is the Patna College, well etablished with an efficient staff. The numbers in its higher classes are small, as compared with the wealth and population of the province. According to the ratio existing in Central and Eastern Bengal, the Lieutenant Governor hopes to see more than one college in Behar,at some such place as Bhagulpore. But at present there does not appear to be any demand for such additional college; and the facilities for communication by railway between the districts round Bhagulpore and the districts round Patna are very great. Respecting Orissa His Honor observes that he has already signified his willingness to convert the Cuttack High School into a college, provided that a certain sum could be raised by private subscription. In respect to high education Northern Bengal is considerably behind Central and Eastern Bengal. It is, says the Lieutenant Governor, often difficult to find natives ot this region sufficiently educated for the higher posts for which they otherwise would be eligible. Through the munificenc of Baboo Hara Nath Roy, a public-spirited zemindar of Rajshaye, who gave a sum, as an endowment, sufficient to produce Rs. 5,000 per annum, there is now a high school at Rajshahye teaching up to the First Arts standard, which is accommodated in a good structure. It might be encouraged to attempt a further advance. and to produce students for the University degrees. In other words, whereas it now has classes for the First and second years of the University course it might have classes for the third and fourth years. For making a trial in this direction the expenditure would be Rs. 9,000 per annum. The Lieutenant-Governor proposes to offer to the people of Rajshahye to carry out the experiment, provided that at least eight students were produced for the third-years class and that one-third of the above cost, say Rs. 4,500, were provided by fees and private subscriptions, leaving Rs. 8,500 to be defrayed by Government. If the people of Rajshahye should wish to see a larger expenditure incurred;—for example,if they desired that *European professors should be employed, it would* be for them, says His Honor,to consider the raising of the additional funds that would be necessary, that outlay being limited to Rs. 8,500 above set down. Similarly the Lieutenant Governor invites the people of Rungpore to convert the zillah school there into a high school, provided that at least six students were produced for the first-year class, and that one-third of the cost were provided by fees and private subscription. The lowest charge for salaries of teachers for the First Arts examination for two years would amount to Rs. 7,500 in all; the one-third to be defrayed by private resources would be Rs. 2,500, leaving Rs. 5,000 to be defrayed by the State. High education is very backward in the Chutia Nagpore division. Hardly ever has any native of that province passed the First Arts examination or taken a University degree, and it is notoriously difficult to find natives of that province sufficiently educated for the higher posts for which they might otherwise be eligible. The several missions, which largely undertake the work of educating the various tribes included under the common designation of Kol, carry some selected boys to the standard of higher education, and these, His Honor says, only for missionary purposes. Sir Richard Temple is willing to raise the zillah school at Ranchee to the status of a high school, at the cost of Rs. 7,500 for the two years, provided that at least six students were forthcoming for the first-year class, of whom four at least must be natives of the Chutia Nagpore Province, and that one-third of the expense, that is Rs. 2,500, were contributed by fees and private subscription. Some time ago an attempt was made to raise the zillah school at Chittagong into a high school, but it afterwards failed. The experiment, however, was undertaken at a lesser cost than is usual in such cases. During his recent visit there, says the Lieutenant-Governor, some complaint was made that if a Chittagong youth desires to study for a University degree, he must either cross the sea to Calcutta, or travel up river to Dacca. He now proposes to the people of Chittagong that another trial be made to raise the zillah school to a high school, at a cost of Rs. 7,500 for two years, provided that six students were forthcoming for the first-year class, and that one-third of the cost, that is Rs. 2,500, were contributed by fees and private subscription. The financial effect of these proposals is thus summed up:

Place.	By Government.	From private resources.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Rajshahye	8,500	4,500	13,000
Rungpore	5,000	2,500	7,500
Ranchee	5,000	2,5 0	7,500
Chittagong	5,000	2,500	7,500
	23,500	12,000	35,500

The whole scheme is based on the grant-in-aid principle. We hope the wealthy landholders, merchants and traders in the several districts will liberally come forward and second the proposals of Government. We should remind them that Heaven helps them most who help themselves.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

A MEETING of the General Committee for the Prince of Wales' Entertainment was held at the rooms of the British Indian Association on Friday last the 16th instant, Raja Rammanath Tagore Bahadur C. S. I. in the Chair. The under-mentioned gentlemen were added to the Committee:

Rai Samasunker Roy Bahadur of Furreedpore.	Babu Bolly Chand Singh.
Raja Bissessar Malliah,Searsole.	Syed Villaet Ali.
Babu Peary Mohun Mookerjea.	Chowdree Mohamed Hak.
	Moulvi Syed ShamsoolHooda

The following gentlemen were then requested to form the Executive Committee:

Executive Committee.

Raja Rammanath Tagore Bahadur C.S.I.,—*Chairman.*	Moulvi Abdool Lutief Khan Bahadur.
Babu Degamber Mitter.	Moonshee Amir Ali Khan Bahadur.
Raja Komulkrishna Bahadur.	
,, Narendrakrishna Bahadur	Babu Peary Mohun Mookerjea.
Hon'ble Doorga Churn Law.	,, Keshub Chunder Sen.
Kumar Greesh Chunder Singh	,, Soobol Das Mullick.
Babu Rajendralala Mitra,	Manickjee Rustomjee Esq.
,, Jodoolal Mullick,	The Secretaries *ex-officio*.
,, Debendro Mullick.	

The Belgachia Villa of the Paikpara Raj family was next appointed as the place of the entertainment. It was further resolved that an *atchala* or pavillion of requisite dimensions and with fitting decorations be erected for the accomodation of the guests. The mover explained that there was no private hall in the town or suburbs, which could comfortably accomodate 600 or 700 guests, and that an *atchala* was an institution of the country on occasions of grand marriages and other assemblies. After some discussion the motion was agreed to.

The following sums were subscribed on the spot:

	Rs.
Raja Joteendra Mohun Tagore Bahadur...	2500
Raja Komul Krishna Bahadur	2000
Kumar Greesh Chunder Singh Bahadur..	2000
Babu Degumber Mitter.....	1000
Raja Narendra Krishna Bahadur.....	1000
Babu Joykissen Mookerjee.....	1000
,, Jodoolal Mullick.....	500
Raja Ramanath Tagore Bahadur C. S, I.....	250
Babu Bhogobutty Churn Mullick.....	200
Prince Mahomed Roheemmooddeen.....	200
Newab Syud Mahomed Mehdee.....	200
Shaik Morad Ali.....	200
Prince Mahomed Jahan Kader.....	150
Hon'ble Jaggadanund Mookerjee.....	150
,, Damoodur Das Burmon.....	100
,, Peary Mohun Mookerjee.....	100
Moulvi Abdool Luteef Khan Bahadur.....	100
Rev. K. M. Banerjee.....	50 paid

WE HEAR that the Government of India has sanctioned the establishment of a Statistical Department for Bengal. It will be made a branch of the Bengal Secretariat, and Mr. Cotton will probably be appointed its chief.

IT IS to be regretted that the sittings of the Bombay Commission for enquiry into the condition of the ryots have not been thrown to the public. There is nothing in their proceedings, which calls for secrecy. This Commission has a resemblance to the Bengal Indigo Commission of 1860, and the meetings of the latter were open to the public. We hope the Government will see the propriety of permitting the Commission to admit the public to their sittings.

INVETERATE jilts are generally the most sovereign irradiators of calumny against their neighbours; no character, however pure, or however high, is safe from their malevolent insinuations. But editors of a certain class, when convicted of misrepresenting facts, are even more noxious in this respect, for with the aid of printer's ink they are enabled to commit much greater mischief. The editor of the *Indian Daily News* offers an apt illustration of this remark. Burning for revenge at having been severely castigated on account of his now notorious one-sided report of the recent Municipal Enquiry, he has accused Babu Rajendralala Mitra of "blindness to the requirements of truth," because the Babu, in his discretion, thought fit to "believe the official record which Mr. Roberts had approved," in preference to the secretly-concocted one of Mr. Wilson. As a party move such a charge would have done well enough for the Eatanswill Gazette, but in a respectable journal it appears any thing but honorable, Silvianus however says —*Quid est dignitas indigno, nisi circulus aureus in naribus suis?*

ONE OF THE resolutions to be moved at the next meeting of the Justices calls for a few remarks. The surplus lands proposed for sale by the Justices include some plots which represent the site of the old Hathibagan Road, and the closing of that road has deprived the owners of house-property there not only of their right to a road frontage, but also of pathway to their houses, and the sale of the plots will perpetuate the injustice. Such a monstrous proposition to deprive the house-owners of their right would never have been made had they been rich and able to carry their complaint to the High Court, to enforce heavy damages against the Municipality. But it behoves the Justices to be the more circumspect because the sufferers in the present case are poor and helpless. It is not certain either that there will be no action for damages. The meanest worm when trod upon can turn round and bite. We understand that two poor Koloos have been made to pay exorbitant prices to purchase the right of way to their own houses—a right which they had enjoyed for years, before the Municipality thought fit to close the road. Such high-handed oppression provokes most unqualified denunciation.

THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR has passed a Resolution for communicating to the press impor-

tant official papers. We give below the following extract:

"The publication of these papers has shown the Lieutenant-Governor that the method hitherto adopted for supplying official information to newspapers has been defective, and has resulted in inaccuracy. Under these plans the information was necessarily communicated in fragments; much information of no value was given; frequently the most important documents connected with a question were altogether omitted, and the value of the information was lessened in consequence of the delay attending its communication. His Honor now proposes to adopt a plan by which he believes these inconveniences will be avoided, and Editors will be supplied with correspondence in a connected and complete form, and without any further delay than is required by the exigencies of the public service. Sir Richard Temple desires to let the public know as much as possible consistent with withholding everything of a secret or dubious character.

2 It will become the duty of each Head Assistant in future to suggest that papers should be send to Editors, and to state precisely what papers he thinks should be sent on each occasion. Head Assistants should use their judgment in determining at what stage or stages of each correspondence their suggestions can be made so as to be of most service to the press and to the public. Before being acted on, the suggestions must in all cases receive the sanction of the Secretary, Junior-Secretary, or Under-Secretary.

3. When the papers are printed, the Sorter should take care to secure a sufficient number of spare copies to supply all the Editors of the papers who are included in the authorized list, and despatch them at the same time as the papers are despatched to Government officers.

We hope the discretion vested in the Secretaries will be properly exercised.

WE HAVE received the following from a correspondent in Assam:

"On the 8th instant Babu Chandra Kanta Mookerjee a Sub-Overseer D. P. W. under orders from his Executive Engineer, went to the Circuit Bungalow at Tezpur to see personally the damages done by the earthquake of the 3rd idem. One Mr. Fisher happened to occupy the Bungalow at the time who ordered the Sub-Overseer to put off his boots. The latter represented the unreasonableness of the order (?) and refused to carry it out upon which the former assaulted Babu Chandra Kanta Mookerjee and compelled him to leave the Bungalow by using criminal force. The Sub-Overseer then officially requested Mr. Lea then in charge of the District to order two constables to accompany him to the Circuit Bungalow for the purpose indicated above and this Mr. Lea thought right to communicate to his friend Mr. Fisher who bid a counter-charge of assault against the Sub-Overseer. That the Sub-Overseer reported Mr. Fisher prior to his reporting will be evident to every one on a reference to Mr. Lea's replies—Judicial Nos, 897 and 898."

Assam seems to monopolize bad manners and barbarity. How often are cases of this kind croping up there? We hope the Chief Commissioner will see that the credit of his administration is not sullied by the unruly conduct of a few rampant Anglo-Saxons.

A CORRESPNODENT sends us the following extract from the *Sindian* to show that judicial vagaries are not confined to Bengal:

"Bribery cases would in Sind appear to be cropping up like defamation ones. There are three cases of bribery already before our City Magistrate; another case turned up the other day at Hyderabad, in which the Tuppeder of Halla was charged with receiving one rupee some time ago from one Gool Mahomed; and with having, some five or six months since, partaken of some meals with a friend of his who is a Zemindar, the meals being, in the opinion of the Magistrate, Mr. Douglas Crawford, a valuable thing, which the said Tuppedar received without adequate consideration. The accused was defended by Mr. Edwards, who had been sent up from here, and although Mr. Edwards pointed out that there was no case against the prisoner, and that it would be as absurd as it would be superfluous to enter on the defence, yet the Magistrate was of opinion there was a strong case against the prisoner, and sentenced him to, three months' *simple* imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 200 with the alternative of six week's additional imprisonment. An appeal was lodged there and then, and although Judge Grant was in the midst of heavy Sessions work he very courteously received the petition of appeal, and after going carefully through it, he ordered the release of the prisoner on bail pending the result of the appeal. While the order for his release was probably being written out, the prisoner was being deprived of his hirsute appendages and his raven locks, preparatory to his being initiated in the mysteries of prison life. It must however be known to all, much more to jail authorities, that no prisoner sentenced to simple imprisonment is deprived of his hair; again, the prisoner was fettered, another unusual proceeding, and put on *pussum* work! We trust the Court of Sessions will make a note of this.—

If taking meal at a friend's be bribery, many a Magistrate, who habitually dine at their planter friends', would not escape such a charge.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE has very properly directed his attention to the accommodation of youths attending our Colleges and schools away from their homes. He remarks: "It very often happens that the students have their parental homes at a distance, or have no friends or relatives on the spot; nevertheless they must attend school or college, and while there must live as they best can. Thus circumstanced, they sometimes lodge miserably; as they live according to their own pleasure, they are exposed to temptation; and if they fall into habits alike injurious to their morals and their studies, there is hardly any room for surprise. These considerations justly and naturally cause anxiety to many parents and guardians." This is quite true. Only the other day we had an application from some subscribers in Rajpootana requesting us to find a respectable lodging-house for the accommodation of their boys, whom they wanted to bring up in some Calcutta school. We of course recommended them the Hindoo hostel. But the difficulty is felt more or less in all towns, and its removal by some State-machinery would be really a step in the right direction. The Lieutenant-Governor recommends the following arrangements. His Honor proposes "to authorise the heads of Government colleges, of high schools, and of zillah schools, to establish lodging-houses, and to appoint some of the native masters to supervise them. Each person so appointed might receive from Government (in addition to his pay) a certain rate per mensem for each student so living with him, of which a part would be for the master's trouble; and a part to help him in providing lodging. It would be understood that more than one or several hostels, or lodging-houses, might be conveniently attached to each school or college. The masters wishing, with the sanction of their superiors, to establish such institutions would submit their term to the head of the school or college, which, if approved by him, would be notified to all concerned. The principals of the colleges, the headmasters of the schools, and the district committees would be expected to exercise a general supervision, so as to make the hostels, or lodging-houses, as worthy as possible of the confidence of the students, and of their parents or guardians." The Lieutenant Governor supposes that a third, or 3,860 of the students at the Government colleges and higher English schools, would elect to live in these lodging-houses. His Honor remarks that "if head-money at the rate of four annas per mensem were allowed on this number, the cost would be Rs. 965 per mensem, to Rs. 11,580 per annum; or, if at the rate of eight annas, then Rs. 1,930 per mensem, or Rs. 25,160 per annum." Sir Richard has sanctioned Rs. 15,000 for one year experimentally. We wish the scheme every success.

THE BEHAR HERALD publishes the following judgment of the Magistrate in the Patna College case:

"Mr. Ford (under the name of Burton) applied to the Principal of the Patna College for the use of a room in the College for the purpose of giving an entertainment. The room, spoken of as the "hall," was granted, and an arrangement made that students of the College and School should be admitted at 4 annas each, the charge for the general public being Rs. 2 and Re 1. In the afternoon the room was arranged, drawing-room chairs being placed for the 2 Rs. seats, armed ordinary room chairs for 1 Re. seats, and the remainder of the room (behind the chairs) taken up with benches for the students who paid 4 ans. The boys were made to understand beforehand this arrangement, and the chaffing remark made by Mr. McCrindle could not I should think be taken as a permission to take their chairs; any how it in no way authorized any one to disarrange the hall, sit on chairs they had not brought, or remove these chairs to make way for his own, which some of the students forcibly did, and in doing so I hold that they became an unlawful assembly. Then the boys began a tremendous noise which could not be quieted. Mr. Ford (Burton) and his assistants behaved admirably, but later on one of these last having occasion to pass through the room, had to force his way through, and in the way pushed over a boy standing on a form, and immediately the other boys shouting out that they were insulted, turned the assembly into a riot, and after this the place was the scene of an occurrence about as disgraceful as any I have ever heard of. I regret exceedingly that there is no sufficient evidence forthcoming to prove who were the guilty parties in this riot, which throws disgrace on all connected with the College; discipline seems to be unknown, and some of the masters were too cowardly to attempt to quell the tumult. As regards the students of the College and School, who express themselves insulted because one of their number was pushed off a form on which he had no right to be standing, and after that assaulted one man in overpowering numbers, they can only be called a lot of cowardly ruffians. Their being shielded brings this consequence that the whole of the pupils share their disgrace, and that to have been pupils in the Patna College, will throw on all the stigma of utter contempt for law and order, which will seriously affect their after prospects.

Thus there was a riot, but I can convict no one. There was an unlawful assembly, and the only member of this that can be ascertained was Laljee. He encouraged the boys and when remonstrated with, told a distinct lie, and was generally the instigator and ringleader of a lot of boys, who forced themselves in front, where they had no right to be. There is no doubt that there were more than five engaged here; there is equally no doubt but they were enforcing a supposed (or pretended) right; the only question is as to whether they used criminal force or show of criminal force. Criminal force was not used at first: when it was, it is doubtful whether Laljee was present. But show of criminal force was used. I think that when a large body of young men forcibly disturb existing arrangements, and a remonstrator is told that they would do as they chose and he would not be allowed to interfere, when doors are broken open, and performers were so apprehensive of the consequences that they determined to leave matters as they were till the arrival of other authorities; then I think there can be no doubt but there was a sufficient show of criminal force to bring the matter under the fourth head of Section 141. I take it too that when a reasonable man may conclude that there is danger of criminal force there has been a show of criminal force. And the notes of paragraphs 117 and 118, at the end of Mr. Mayne's Commentry on the Penal Code bear me out in this opinion. Mr. Mayne seems to think that an assembly behaving in such a manner as to *provoke angry passions*, or excite to a breach of the peace, is an unlawful assembly, there can be no doubt (what occurred afterwards, prove this) but that if Mr. Ford and his assistants had attempted to stop the proceeding, there would have been a riot at once, and as Mr. Ford, &c, were apprehensive of this, there must have been sufficient show of force.

The Court finds that Laljee Sing is guilty of being a member of an unlawful assembly, and that he has thereby committed an offence punishable under Section 143 of the Indian Penal Code and the Court directs that the said Lalljee Sing be rigorously imprisoned for one month, and pay a fine of 50 Rs., and in default be further imprisoned rigorously for one and a half months more. The fine if paid to be made over to Mr. Ford in compensation. The remaining defendants are acquitted.

(Sd.) H. MOSLEY,
Offg. Magistrate.

The judgment is an angry conclusion of an angry affair. We are sorry that the Magistrate has not shewn that equilibrium of mind which was expected from one in his position. The *frazas* was a school-boys' row, and we do not think that the Magistrate is justified in stigmatizing the boys, who may or may not have taken part in the affair as "a lot of cowardly ruffians." We do not defend the boys, but they were at best guilty of a school-boy spree. The disclipine in the College certainly requires a stern hand. As for the conviction of Laljee, the Magistrate himself admits that it is doubtful whether Laljee was present when criminal force was used. There was undeniably a show of crimlnal force, but Laljee is not identified with it, and we are not therefore satisfied that he has been rightly convicted. At any rate the Magistrate ought to have given him the option of an appeal by passing a higher sentence than one of one month's imprisonment and Rs. 50 fine, a sentence which he knows is not appealable.

WE HAVE much pleasure in giving a prominent insertion to the following report of a deputation to Lord Salisbury on the labor question in Maritius:

"A deputation from the Aborigines Protection Society had an interview with the Marquis of Salisbury at the India Office for the purpose of calling his attention to the disclosures made in the report of the Royal Commissioners to the Mauritius on the treatment of the Indian labourers in that colony. The deputation was introduced by Sir G. Campbell Bart., M.P., and includes Lord Stanley of Alderly, Professor Fawcett, M.P., Mr. E. Jenkins, M.P., Mr. J. C. Clarke, M.P., Mr. Young M.P., Mr. A. M'Arther, M.P., Mr. H. Richard, M.P., Sir H. Havelock, M.P., Sir C. Wingfield, the Hon. A. Kinnard, M.P., General Mariott, the Rev. F. S. Turner, Mr. Hurrychund Chintamon, Mr. Rustomjee Vicagee, Mr. Pestonjee Bazoujee, Mr. E. Sturge, Mr. R. Allsop, and Mr. F. W. Chession (secretary.)

Sir G. Campbell, M.P., feared the Indian Government had not hitherto been informed with sufficient fulness and accuracy as to what was going on in the Mauritius in reference to the immigration of coolies and their treatment after they reached the colony. He was favourable to the colonisation of our warmer colonies by drafts from the overcrowded population of India, but he felt sure that for such colonisation to be satisfactorily carried out the powers of the Crown must be increased, and must be very vigorously and strenuously exercised in order to maintain a proper balance between the white and coloured races. At present the Home Government was too much in the habit of beng influenced by the reports of colonial officials, who were, almost of necessity, favourable to the dominant race, of putting faith in colonial statistics, which were often most misleading in their character.

Mr. Chession submitted to his lordship a memorial setting forth the grievances of the Indian coolies who have immigrated to the colony of Mauritius, and are now resident in the island to the number of between 200,000 and 250,000. The memorial urged the necessity of constant official vigilance, and complained that many of the magistrates have used the law so as in many cases to inflict gross and cruel injustice; that on many estates weges have been habitually in arrear, while on others graves acts of cruelty have been committed; that the punishment inflicted upon the offenders in such cases has been excessively lenient compared with the penalties imposed upon the coolies for comparatively trival offences; and, lastly, the moral and sanitary condition of the immigrants is reverse of satisfactory.

Sir C. Wingfield and Lord Stanley of Alderley briefly supported the memorial.

The Marquis of Salisbury said the subject referred to in the memorial had been carefully considered by him, and he had been deeply impressed by its importance, and also by the magnitude of the abuses which had arisen in some places by reason of insufficient supervision. In order to effect any real and useful reforms the subject must be approached in an unprejudiced spirit. The want of labour was so keenly felt in the colonies that employers looked with impatience upon any regulations which impeded its adequate flow. In India the people were so impressed with the sufferings to which the emigrants are occasionally exposed that they had come to regard all emigration as a sort of evil which should be checked by any provision that ingenuity could suggest. This feeling was not universal among Indian officials, but it prevailed occasionally. In England, where the Government

was removed far away from all passionate feeling, their duty was to try and hold the balance even, and to encourage what was good and wholesome in the immigration system, at the same time taking steps to prevent the evils by which it had hitherto been occasionally attended. (Hear, hear.) They must carefully avoid the doctrine that immigration from India was in itself an evil. On the other hand, the emigration of people who, in their own country, could not earn more than 2s 6d a week to a country in which they could double their earnings must in itself, all other considerations being put aside—be regarded as an advantage. The native labourers in India were very poor. Their only capital was their labour, all the Indian Government said was that the coolies should be permitted to mortgage their labour for five years in order to obtain the means of carrying it into a better market. This struck him as being a perfectly sound proceeding, but it was incumbent upon the Government to see that the labourers thoroughly understood the nature of the contracts into which they were invited to enter, and that when they reached the colonies in which they were to serve they should be protected by just laws vigilantly and equitably administered. (Hear, hear.) In most of the colonies in which labour was required slavery had formerly prevailed; and one of the most blighting effects of slavery was the debauching influence it exercised upon public sentiment. This resulted in laws which were well intended and equitably constructed being administered in a manner inconsistent with their letter and intention. He was glad to know that the views of the Aborigines Protection Society were principally turned to the remedying of these evils. If the society tried to impress the British Public with the idea that immigration was in itself a thing to be looked upon with dislike, its words would fall feebly upon the sentiment of the country; but if they would turn their attention that which was the real evil—namely that the laws for the protection of the immigrants were not thoroughly and successfully administered—their efforts would be attended with success. The principal remedy which has been suggested, and which was now under the consideration of the Government, was that in the colonies employing coolie labour protectors or inspectors drawn from the countries to which the coolie belonged should be appointed, and that they should report to the home Government any case of injustice which might come under their notice. If this was done he could assure the deputation that the home Government would pay prompt attention to any reports made to them by the inspectors. (Hear, hear.) The only desire entertained both by Lord Carnarvon and himself was that the coolie immigration, which was founded on sound principles, should be so managed as to prove advantageous alike to the labourers and to the colonies in which they were employed. In this, as in all other matters where conflicting interests had to be reconciled, the operation of a society like the Aborigines Protection Society must prove beneficial by disseminating sound principles and strengthening the hands of the authorities who had to deal with people in distant parts whose interests came sharply into conflict.

The Hon. A. Kinnaird, M.P., hoped the attention of the Government would be directed to the fact that great evils arose from the paucity of women in comparison with the men among the immigrants.

Mr. E. Jenkins M. P., expressed his opinion that the real root of the evil lay in the fact that the engagements of coolies were for five years instead of for shorter periods. He thought one year would be quite long enough.

The deputation then withdrew.

We hope the Indian Associations will follow up this deputation.

THE VERNACULAR PRESS.

The *Someprokas* is convinced that in proposing the question of regulating the hours of labor of employes in the Bombay mills the Earl of Shaftesbury was actuated by the best of motives and not with a view to benefit the Manchester interest. People impute sinister motives because the proposal came in the wake of one which glaringly aimed at injuring the rising industry of India.

The *Amritabazar Putrica* says that the Government has adopted the policy of scattering honors and titles amongst the natives with profusion only after the Sepoy Mutiny. Before that their practice of promoting the interest of the natives was by rewarding the most meritorious students of colleges with lucrative and honorable appointments. They also took good care to patronize children of respectable parents in order to prevent their families falling into misery and distress. They also took care to see that Zemindars and other respectable wealthy families met with no indignity at the hands of Government officials or high dignitaries. These measures and the policy from which they flowed had a tendency to advance the material interests of the country. They increased national importance and maintained our honor, respectability and self-respect. Since the mutiny the Government has changed that policy.

The *Sahachar* revives the question of the admission of attorneys to the privilege of practising in the appellate jurisdiction of the High Court and condemns the order of the late Chief Justice under which the privilege is enjoyed. It is not only an injustice to the pleaders who have undergone a course of systematic legal educati n but an injury done to the cause of justice by allowing a set of people whose only recommendation is that they have served a period of apprenticeship as clerks and have obtained a random knowledge of some legal subjects. It brings to the notice of the new Chief Justice that a reconsideration of the subject is very anxiously desired by the public.

With reference to the reports of the Divisional Commissioners on the result of the system of summary trials in criminal cases without appeal the *Bharut Sungskaruk* says that it is desirable to examine how far the decision of Government in favour of the system is correct and conducive to the welfare of the people. It is well known with what patience and thoughtfulness Mofusil judicial officers dispose of cases. Even with the fear of appeal to superior Courts they often come to conclusions without properly weighing evidence and when these men have the power of disposing of cases in a summary way fearless of revision elsewhere it can scarcely create surprise that the door to injustice and wrong shall be wide open. The Government might have no knowledge of the wrong that is perpetrated under the system from the circumstance of there being no appeals and from the fact of people in humble circumstances being the victims unable to agitate their grievances.

On the subject of obtaining correct returns of the out-turn of harvests and the report of the Revenue Board referring to the want of information on the subject on the part of the Zemindars, the *Education Gazette* says that it is disgraceful that such should be the case. Zemindars if they try can easily secure accurate and reliable information on the subject of agricultural produce. Such knowledge is both necessary and useful to them. We know, says the editor, that the zemindars possess especial facilities for obtaining such information which the Government officers have not. And if arrangements can be made for collecting the statistics from the Zemindars Government might be spared the necessity of entertaining extra establishment.

The *Samáj Durpan* says that honors and titles are being too profusly and indiscriminately scattered by the Government so as to detract from the character of those who have been honored for real merit and virtue. People now have ceased to regard those with esteem who are the unfortunte recepients of such honors.

The *Dacca Prokash* strongly condemns the new rule introduced by Principal Ewibank for closing the Dacca College at 3 P.M. which taking the holidays and Sundays reduces the number of working days in the College to only 133 days. The reason assigned for the alteration is scarcely of any weight as the inconvenience felt by the students on account of exhaustion consequent on confinement in heated or overcrowded rooms for five hours is more than counterbalanced by the exposure and dissipation proceeding from lesure in mid-days. Besides the Dacca College enjoys the advantage of a commodious building whereas by far the greater number of Schools in the interior are located in narrow ill-ventilated crowded rooms where no inconvenience is felt even after six hours' confinement.

Correspondence.

THE RENT-LAW.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HINDOO PATRIOT.

SIR,—I have perused your remarks on the subject of enhancement of rent and though I concur with you generally I have reason to differ with you on the right of occupancy question. The prevailing opinion is that the zemindars are mere revenue collectors who were created by the British Government and removal at pleasure. who possessed no other rights or powers except what were inherent in the office of revenue collectors. But the author of the pamphlet you have noticed has I believe succeeded in proving that the class of zemindars has been in existence from the days of the Mahabharut and Ramayan down to the year 1793, who enjoyed absolute rights which were never interefered by any proceding Government so long as the revenue due on the properties in their possession was regularly and fully paid. Of course there were exceptions to the rule but such exceptions do not prejudice it. They arose from the caprice of self-willed despots who set law, precedent and prescriptive rights at nought in order to gratify their avarice.

But to come to the question of the right of occupancy. You say that when it has been once established it cannot be revoked. This in other words amounts to saying that a right conferred or suffered to be enjoyed by mistake becomes a permanent and indefeasible right. Suppose you purchase a house in Calcutta built a hundred years ago which was let at a fixed rate of rent, and assuming that the decennial settlement rules and the twenty years' rule are applicable to properties situated in Calcutta you cannot raise the rent in case of a sudden or increased demand for houses without first going to Court and serving the occupant with a previous notice to that effect. Now will not such a law interfere with yourprivate right as proprietor of the house? The principle on which this right is interfered with is, recognized in no country in the world, not even in the land of our rulers. Is it not very hard and unjust to the ignorant and and famishing zemindars of Bengal to be inflicted with such a law in which they acquiesed in the hope that it will be altered or modified as it evils became apparent?

The next thing to be considered is whether or not the landlord is entitled to an enhancement of rent. On this point opinions differ. Some deny the right *in toto*, some hold that the test of enhancement should be the pergunnah rate others by a comparison of the rate of rent paid on land of a similar description. The result of this diversity of opinion is that claims for enhancement are never properly settled. In my opinion the points of determination in such cases should be whether the value of produce has risen since the enactment of Act X and whether the productive power of land has increased through the agency of the cultivator. Now any one who has any experience of the Mofusil must know that there has been a great fluctuation in the price of agricultural produce which has risen considerably in value. But he should also know that no cultivator ever lays out any capital for the recovery of which he has no security beyond what he expects to obtain in the shape of produce. If he incurs any expense for manure that he is obliged to do prevent deterioration of his land which would be sterile from long use. No human agency can turn a naturally poor soil into a rich one.

But what appears to me most unjust and unnatural is that while the cultivator can claim abatement of rent in spite of the special contract to pay a fixed rent whose reduction is barred by the twenty year's rule, it cannot be increased. I will not dilate further on the subject, but I wish that the Zemindars of Bengal may be placed on nearly the same footing with the English landlords as far as that is possible consistently with the rights and responsibilities of the fermer.

Yours faithfully,

K.

A CHEAP NEWSPAPER FOR THE MASSES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HINDOO PATRIOT.

SIR,—As the leading journal of native opinion, marked at the same time with impartiality I solicit some space in your columns choosing your journal, in preference to any other, as, I believe, it is extensively perused both by the aristocracy and the populace. I scarcely imagine that you will refuse to insert this letter, though you might be a member of the British Indian Association, and might think, that my proposal, is detrimental to your own interests as a public journalist, but, when you reflect, that the *Patriot* is a hebdomadal, and my proposal, is for the benefit of the masses, for the benefit of *your* countrymen, with whom *I* too, claim nationality, being an East Indian, it might not be presumptuous in me to ask you, to advocate my cause, by the might of your "grey-goose quill," and not to throw cold water upon it. I had addressed a lengthy communication, officially, on the subject through the Secretary to the Members of the British. Indian Association on the 8th December last, but as no reply was received, I presume, that my insignificance did not merit one.

In these days when education is taking leviathan strides, when the University is annually increasing its list of matriculated students, the time is opportune, that a cheap daily paper should be placed in the hands of the million. There are several natives, Eurasians and East Indians, who cannot afford to pay an anna a day for a copy of the *Statesman* but could easily pay one pice, to be informed of local events in twenty-four; it is such a journal, I would propose to establish. *Public Opinion* is published in London, at half penny daily, and though it contains nothing original, (being a compilation from other papers) yet has a circulation, of something like thirty thousand.

I propose, therefore, that a Joint Stock Company be formed with a capital, of rupees ten thousand, in five hundred shares of twenty rupees, and I feel assured, that when the object, for which such a journal is started, is known, the shares will be taken up, not only, by the noble-minded native citizens of Calcutta, but by several Maharajahs and Talookdars in the North-West, foremost of whom, I would name the large-hearted Maharajas of Jeypore and Burdwan, the Maharanee Surnomoye of Cossim Bazar, and Newab Abdul Ghani Mia of Dacca. As the estimate I have framed, is too lengthy for your columns, I have simply to say, that I would guarantee a dividend, of twelve per cent. per annum, *at least*, and still further, realise the entire amount (Rs. 10,000) in five years. (A more remunerative speculation than municipal debenture.) This agreement I would enter into on consideration, that the *entire* editorial management was placed entirely in my hands, free from all interference; that my staff of contributors, of whom I have several, be selected by me, and that the paper be called the Indian People to be perfectly independent, and yet primarily devoted to the interests of Hindoos, Mahomedans and East Indians. I further guarantee, that I would undertake the sole responsibility, for any action for libel. I would fix the rate of subscription at eight annas only, or two pice for single copies; secure advertisements of a standing nature, and be regularily supplied with correspondence, from the Mofussil and Europe. Apart from all this, I would open an additional sheet, every Saturday, where original communications of a literary nature, tales, essays, travels, sketches and poetry, might appear. Here then, is a fine investment if it will only be taken up in right earnest; prospects for large profits in a cheap paper for the masses, the diffusion of knowledge, and an opportunity for young aspirants to literary fame, to distinguish themselves.

I will flourish no trumpets to prove my ability to conduct such a journal, but I cannot conclude, without mentioning, for the satisfaction of those concerned, that during the past twelve years, I have been wedded to Literature, that I have been a frequent contributor to three of the existing Calcutta journals, that a few years ago I edited a weekly paper, and that I am the author of seven volumes of prose and poetry, and apart from these, is the fact, that my testimonials are unexceptionable.

If any nobleman will come forward to promote my scheme, those men will be deserving of national gratitude; they will be benefactors, in the widest sense of the word; they will earn the thanks of grateful India, the esteem of society and the applause of the world; this will be truly a meritorious deed, and good deeds, are prescribed alike, in the Shastras the Koran and the Bible. If a hundred lofty-souled men, each subscribed a hundred rupees, they would, at the end of five years have received a hundred and sixty at the least, and endeared themselves both to the present and future generations.

Yours faithfully,

A. F. H.

Tonk, Rajpootana, 1875.

MONEY MARKET.

September 18, 1875.

GOVERNMENT DEBENTURES LOANS OF 1867.

5	Per Cent. for 10 years (1877)	...	Rs.	101	8	to	102	0
5	,, for 15 years (1882)	...	,,	107	0	to	108	8

GOVERNMENT LOANS.

				Per 100 Rs.
4	Per Cent. Promissory Notes ...	Rs.	102 0 to 102 4	
4½	„ of 1870 Co.'s Rs. (1885)	„	104 4 to 104 12	
4½	„ of 1871 Co.'s Rs. (1881)	„	104 8 to 104 12	
4½	„ of 1872 Co.'s Rs. (1879)	„	102 14 to 103 2	
5	„ of 1859-60 Co.'s Rs. (1879)	„	108 4 to 108 6	

CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL DEBENTURES.

				Per 100 Rs.
6	Per Cent., of 1864 (due in 1884) ...	Rs.	112 8 to 113 0	
6	„ of 1865 ... (1885) ...	„	113 0 to 113 0	
6	„ of 1866 ... (1886) ...	„	113 8 to 114 0	
6	„ of 1867 ... (1887) ...	„	114 6 to 114 8	
6	„ of 1870 ... (1890) ...	„	114 8 to 115 0	
6	„ of 1872 ... (1892) ...	„	115 8 to 116 0	

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	Rs.	As.	P
The Bhandara Public Library	6	10	0
Wyman Narayan Oke Esq. Coompta	13	4	0
Sir Madava Rao, K. C. S. I. Baroda	13	4	0
Babu Hurrish Chunder Roy, Khoolden	2	8	0
„ Parbutty Churn Mittra, Kessoriah	8	4	0
„ Rojony Kant Bose, Krishnaghur	20	0	0
„ Brojonath Sookool, Kessoriah	13	4	0
„ Harran Chunder Chatterjee, Seebsagor	6	0	0
„ Bhibiram Baroouh, Shillong	6	10	0
„ Kantee Chunder Mookerjee, Gowhatty	2	2	0
„ Rhogobutty Churn Mookerjee, Muzufferpore.	15	0	0
„ Jodoonath Chatterjee, Raneegunge	10	0	0
„ Luckhi Kant Bose, Mongoldoi	8	4	0
„ Nobo Coomar Roy, Shafulla	5	0	0
„ Adito Prosad, Daltongunge	3	0	0
„ Ramdarain Banerjee, Chandowsi	13	4	0
„ Denobundoo Kor, Rampore Hat	6	10	0
„ Gurudas Banerjee, Narcaldanga	13	4	0
„ Gopal Chunder Coondoo, Contai	13	4	0
„ Chunder Nath Simlie, Dinagepore	13	4	0
„ Khetter Mohun Bose, Chittagong	13	4	0
„ Gyan Chundra Roy, Takee	6	10	0
„ Salgaram Tripathi, Durbunga	8	0	0
„ Tarrucknath Ghose, Bhaugulpore	6	10	0
„ Kylash Chunder Banerjee, Lahore	13	4	0
„ Rojony Kant Chatterjee, Jamalpore	5	0	0
„ Doorgagotee Banerjee, Bankipore	25	0	0
„ Joggunnath Barooah, Gowhatty	13	4	0
„ Brojender Coomar Guho, Chittagong	2	8	0

ERRATUM.

READ.—Harri Charan Roy in lieu of Hurri Charan Banerjee, Dinagepore 13 4 0

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette.—*September* 15, 1875.

GENERAL.—*The 1st September 1875.*—The following promotions are made in the Subordinate Executive Service consequent on the death of Mr. W. Davey, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of the Fourth Grade :—

To the Fourth Grade.—Baboo Doorga Das Chowdry, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Meherpore Division of the Nuddea district.

To the Fifth Grade.—Baboo Sitakant Mookerjea, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Busseerhaut Division of the 24-Pergunnahs district.

To the Sixth Grade.—Mr. Lawrence Barlow Roberts, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sonthal Pergunnahs.

The 3rd September 1875.—Mr. George Mainwaring Currie, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in charge of the Begoo Serai Division of the Monghyr District, is transferred to Dacca.

Moulvie Ameer Uddin Ahmed, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Pubna, is appointed to have temporary charge of the Serajgunge Division of that district.

Mr. Edward Maxwell Reily, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, in temporary charge of the Serajgunge Division of the Pubna district, is appointed to have charge of the Begoo Serai Division of the Monghyr district.

The 6th September 1875.—Mr. Percival Nelson Langdon, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Hooghly, is vested with the power of a Deputy Collector from the date of his passing his examination by the Lower Standard.

The 7th September 1875.—Baboo Nil Chunder Chuckerbutty Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Dinagepore, is allowed leave for three months, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 2nd instant,.

Baboo Anund Chunder Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Bakergunge, is allowed leave for two months, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code,

Mr. P. T. Rebello is appointed to be temporarily a Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade in Hazareebagh, *vice* Moonshi Kastoree Lall, whose services have been placed at the disposal of the Irrigation Department.

Mr. William Rea Larminie, M.A., Magistrate and Collector, Bankoora, is appointed to act in the First Grade of Magistrates and Collectors from the date on which Mr. W. S. Wells availed himself of his leave.

Mr. Robert Douglas Hime M.A., Magistrate and Collector, Beerbhoom, is appointed to act in the First Grade of Magistrates and Collectors with effect from the date on which Mr. J. S. Armstrong avails himself of his subsidiary leave.

Mr. Edwyn Samuel Moseley, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Durbhangah, is appointed to act in the Second Grade of Magistrates and Collectors from the date on which the appointment of Mr. W. R. Larmine to act in the First Grade takes effect.

Mr. Thomas Molloy Kirkwood, Officiating Magistrate and Collector, Chittagong, is appointed to act in the Second Grade of Magistrates and Collectors from the date on which the appointment of Mr. R. D. Hime to act in the First Grade takes effect.

The 9th September 1875.—Baboo Gour Das Bysack, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Beerbhoom, is allowed leave for nine days, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code.

Baboo Jogendro Nath Gupta, Sub-Deputy Collector at Jehanabad, in the district of Burdwan, is allowed leave for two months, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code.

Mr. J. T. Babonau is appointed to act as a Sub-Deputy Collector at Jehanabad, in the district of Burdwan, during the absence, on leave of Baboo Jogendro Nath Gupta, or until further orders.

Lieutenant J. Rivett-Carnac, Officiating Assistant Commissioner, Hazaresbagh, is transferred to Lohardugga.

The 10th September 1875.—Baboo Gour Das Bysack Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Beerbhoom, is allowed leave for twenty days, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under orders of the 9th September 1875.

Mr. Walter Warden, Officiating Collector of Customs and Officiating Conservator of the Port of Chittagong, is allowed leave for two months, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code.

Baboo Bhoirub Nath Palit, Sub-Deputy Collector, Khoolna, Jessore, is allowed leave for two months, under Section 21, Chapter VI of the Civil Leave Code, in extension of the leave granted to him under orders of the 24th June 1875.

The services of Mr. W. R. Johnston, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Chittagong, are placed at the disposal of the Public Works Department of this Government. with a view to his being appointed as Toll Collector at Jungypore.

Mr. John Thomas Jarbo is appointed to act as a Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, and is posted to the district of Chittagong.

Advertisements.

NOTICE.

Ramdeen and Doolaur lately arrived from Trinidad per Royal Mail, and P. & O. Steamers are hereby notified that the Government Emigration Agent at Calcutta is prepared to pay them the sum of Rupees 5687 ans. 8 deposited in the Colonial Treasury at Trinidad for remittance to India.

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Stoke's Indian Succession Act Rs. 4.

Cary's Bengali and English Dictionary. 3 vols. very scarce, Rs. 40.

Wilson's translation of Rigveda. Rs. 50.

KEDAR NATH BANERJE.

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NOTICE.

The undermentioned holdings or parcels of Government Lottery-Committee lands in Amherst Sreet Calcutta will (Subject to resumption if required by Government) be settled with the highest bidders for a period of 5 years at the Calcutta Collectorate. No 5 Church Lane on Wednesday the 22 nd September 1875 at 1 P. M.,

The accepted bidder will have to tender—so soon as the lot is knocked down to a Security Desposit equal to six months' rent.—

LOT NO.	NO. OF THE PREMISES AND NAME OF STREET.			AREA OF LAND.			
1	108	Amherst	Street	„	3	8	13
2	74	Do	Do	1	5	15	24
3	46	Do	Do	„	6	12	8
4	2	Do	Do	„	3	14	17½
5	49 to 52	Do	Do	2	6	2	11

Calcutta, Collectorate, The 15th September, 1875. | J. MACKENZIE, *Deputy Collector.*

NOTICE.

A Special General Meeting of the Justices of the Peace for the Town of Calcutta will be held at the Town Hall on Wednesday the 22nd September 1875 for the purpose of nominating a Vice Chairman of the Justices on a salary of Rs. 1200 per mensem. Candidates for the appointment should forward their applications with *Copies* of Testimonials to the undersigned.

ROBERT TURNBULL,

Secretary to the Justices.

Apecial General Meeting of the Justices of the Peace for the Town of Calcutta will be held at the Town Hall, on Wednesday, the 22nd September 1875, *at* 11 *o'Clock* A. M.

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. The Chairman to submit for confirmation Resolution by General Committee regarding sale of surplus land in Grey Street by public auction.

2. The Chairman to submit for confirmation Resolution by General Committee on proposal made by Port Commissioners respecting the Nimtollah Burning Ghat.

3. The Chairman to submit for confirmation Resoluton by General Committee recommending that four months' additional sick leave be granted to Dr. F. N. Macnamara, Gas and Water Analyst to the Justices, and one month's additional leave to Mr. Dickson, Engineer at Tallah.

4. The Chairman to submit for confirmation proceedings of Meetings of General Committee, held on the 23rd August and 1st September 1875.

5. To fix, under Section 11 of Act VI. of 1863, the salary of the Vice-Chairman to be appointed in succession to Baboo Omesh Chunder Dutt resigned.

6. The Chairman to report the names of the candidates for the vacant appointment of Vice-Chairman, which are—

Mr. J. S. Hubbard.	Baboo Omernauth Bose.
Mr. W. A. Shephard.	Baboo Gourdas Baysack.
Mr. D. P. Stuart Menteth	Mr. William Mackintosh
Mr. J. Rose.	Mr. F. Hooper.
Mr. F. de H. Larpent.	Mr. R. A. Freitas.
	Baboo Radhapursad Lahory.

7. Mr. J. B. Knight to move, and Mr. H. H. Sutherland to Second—

"That Mr. John B. Roberts be nominated by the "Justices as Vice-Chairman of the Justices on a salary "of Rs. 1,200 per month, and if the said nomination "has the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor of "Bengal, that Mr. John B. Roberts (when the "approval has been duly notified to the Justices) be "appointed Vice-Chairman of the Justices."

8. The Chairman to move, and Moulvie Abdool Luteef Khan Bahadoor, to Second—

"That Mr. F. de H. Larpent be nominated, subject "to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor of "Bengal, as Vice-Chairman of the Justices under "Section 8 of Act VI. (B.C.) of 1863, and should the "approval of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor be "accorded to the aforesaid nomination, that Mr. "F. de H. Larpent be appointed Vice-Chairman on a "salary of Rs. 1,200 per mensem."

9. The Chairman to submit for confirmation proceedings of the Special Committee for Markets.

10. The Chairman to lay on the table for consideration Report of the Special Committee appointed to consider and report on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the Municipal affairs of Calcutta.

11. The Chairman to lay on the table for consideration Report by General Committee on the Bill for the purpose of providing "Reformatory and Industrial Schools" in this country.

12. Statement of Accounts for the month of August 1875.

ROBERT TURNBULL

Secretary to the Justices.

17*th September* 1875.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE."

Widow marriage—Intermarriage—registered by Mr A. E. Heath, Registrar of marriages under Act III of 1872 of the District of Kamrup in *Assam.*

At Gowhati on Saturday the 11th September 1875 Troylokhyanath Sirkar, of the Executive Engineer's Office Lower Assam Division, to Krishna Kanti widow of late Bhadra Krishna Gossami of Nowgong, Assam.

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